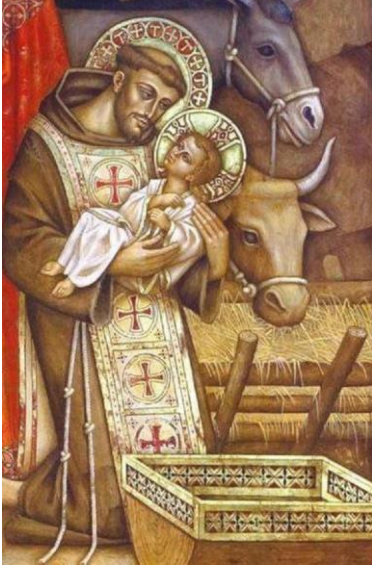


**January 5, 2020**  
**The Epiphany of the Lord**  
**THE FAITH COMMUNITY OF**  
**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI**

*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@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**

**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 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 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

**PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS** the family and friends of +Thomas Turkovich who was laid to rest last week. Welcoming God, receive from our hands the loved ones we return to You.

**MEN'S CLUB** will be selling Valentine Special Tickets beginning this weekend in the vestibule. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

**FISH FRY** will take place on Friday, January 10. Please consider sharing some of your time and talent to make this event a success. We will follow the same prep schedule as November. Contact the Parish Office if you have any questions. *Take note: the February Fish Fry will be held 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. .

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH DECEMBER 22:** Adults - \$2,703.00; Children - \$15.00; Loose - \$370.00; Monthly - \$13.00; Christmas - \$240.00; Candles - \$130.75; St. Vincent de Paul - \$5.00; Holy Day - \$10.00; Thanksgiving - \$5.00; Donations - \$600.00. Total Collection - \$4,091.75.

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH DECEMBER 25:** Loose - \$1,099.00; Adults - \$3,938.02. Total Collection - \$5,037.02.

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH DECEMBER 29:** Loose - \$272.00; Adults - \$2,426.27; Children - \$42.00; Holy Day - \$8.00; Candles - \$130.85; St. Vincent de Paul - \$344.00; Donations - \$100.00. Total Collection - \$3,323.12. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

**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.

**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

**Feast of the Epiphany**

The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family’s flight into Egypt. Matthew’s Gospel tells a version of Jesus’ birth that is different from the one in Luke. Of the actual birth of Jesus, Matthew tells us little more than, “When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod...” The story of the census is found only in Luke’s Gospel, but we hear about the visit of the Magi only in Matthew’s Gospel. We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew’s Gospel, they represent the Gentile’s search for a Savior. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus. We have to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus’ role in salvation. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus’ Kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of His Divinity because Priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus’ death. The word Epiphany means “manifestation” or “showing forth.” Historically several moments in Christ’s early life and ministry have been celebrated as “epiphanies,” including His birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, His Baptism by John, and His first miracle at Cana.



**Epiphany Household Blessing**

To take the celebration of Epiphany from church and the parish family to your home, all you need is holy water. Take the sign (can be found in the vestibule) and place it above your doorway:

**20 + C + M + B + 20**

20 + C (asper) + M (elchoir) + B (Balthazar) + 20

*Blessed are You, Lord God of all Creation: by the guidance of a star You led the Magi to Your Child and by the light of Faith You bring us to know Christ as Lord, the Messiah You have sent. Bless us as we mark our doors in Your honor:*

While the house is being blessed:

*Bless us as we sprinkle our homes with this water; sign of Lord Jesus’ Baptism in the River Jordan. May our homes where these things are used in Faith, be dwelling places of goodness, humility, self-control, mutual respect for one another, hospitality toward strangers and loving obedience to Your Word. May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ among us; and may we seek and serve everyone we meet. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

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

James Edward Adams; Rose Blaschak, Odessa Bobak, Galynn Brady, Sister Carol Jean Czyrnik, 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.

**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 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 Rowan 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, Fort Stewart, GA; 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**; **S/SSgt 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; **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.*

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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.

**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

**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.

