

**March 1, 2020**  
**First 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*

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*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

**LENT SCHEDULE:** Daily Mass will be celebrated on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at **12:05PM** and on Tuesday at 6:15PM with Novena to St. Anthony of Padua. Stations of the Cross will take place at 7:00PM on Fridays of Lent. Lenten Lamentations will be prayed on Sunday afternoon beginning at 3:00PM with Divine Mercy Chaplet followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

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

**ROSARY SOCIETY** will meet on Monday, March 2 at 6:00PM. Please join us for Rosary, Reflection and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 6** is the First Friday of the month. Adoration will begin after the 12:05PM Mass and continue until 5:30PM. New Signup sheets are in the main 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).

**FISH FRY** - Friday, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3 from 11:00AM until 6:00PM. Once again, YOUR help is needed and greatly appreciated. Together we can make this a very successful Fish Fry Season. If you are interested in helping please contact the Parish Office for more information. *PLEASE – if you have indicated that you will help – DON'T FORGET – we are counting on you!* Donations of baked goods, soda and water for the Fish Fries will be accepted. THANK YOU to all who helped with the Fish Fry on Ash Wednesday.

**MEN'S CLUB** meeting will take place on Thursday, March 5 at 7:00PM in the Activity Center.

**MOVIE NIGHT** – Come join us on Sunday, March 8 at 4:00PM in the Activity Center to watch the movie “Molokai” about Father Damien who ministered to the people on the island of Molokai, Hawaii, who were afflicted with leprosy. Water, soda and popcorn will be provided. You are welcome to bring snacks to share and pizza will be offered after the movie.

**CONZATTI PIZZA SALE** to benefit the Gabriel Project on Saturday, March 28. Order forms are included with the bulletin or in the vestibule. Cheese or pepperoni pizzas are \$6.00/each. Payment by cash or check (made out to St. Francis Gabriel Project) must accompany orders. Pizzas can be picked up on Saturday, March 28 at the Activity Center from 11:00AM until Noon. Any questions call Gale at 539-0155. Deadline for orders: Sunday, March 23.

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEK:** Adults - \$2,502.27; Children - \$9.00; Monthly - \$57.00; Loose - \$256.00; First Offering - \$25.00; Candles - \$94.15; Register - \$5.00; Missalettes - \$20.00; Ash Wednesday - \$27.00; Holy Day - \$25.00; Donation - \$10.00; Misc. - \$185.00. Total Collection - \$3,265.42. 158 out of 283 used envelopes last week.

**THE ST. FRANCIS GABRIEL PROJECT** pro-life ministry needs diapers, baby wipes, grooming products, and baby clothing. Your donations are greatly appreciated. Questions or to refer families please call Gale at 539-0155.

**ADULT EDUCATION CLASS** – Deacon Bruce will be teaching an adult education class on the Book of Esther. The class will be held on Thursday, March 5, 12, 19, 26 from 6:30PM – 7:30PM **in the Parish Office.**

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - Religious Education – 10:45AM – Noon  
Friday, March 6, 13, 20, 27 – Stations of the Cross – 7:00PM  
Sunday, March 1, 15, 22, 29 – Lenten Lamentations/Divine Mercy/Benediction – 3:00PM  
Friday, March 6, 13, 20, 27 – 11:00AM – 6:00PM – Fish Fry  
Sunday, March 8 – 4:00PM – Movie Night – Activity Center

#### LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES

Thursday, March 26 – St. Anthony of Padua, Windber – 6:00PM  
Tuesday, March 31 – Visitation – 5:30PM  
Tuesday, March 31 – Our Mother of Sorrows – 6:00PM  
Wednesday, April 1 – West End Penance Service – St. Mary, Cambria City – 6:00PM  
Thursday, April 2 – St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Windber – 6:00PM  
Thursday, April 2 – St. John Gualbert Cathedral – 6:30PM  
Monday, April 6 – St. Benedict – 5:00PM

**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 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.

**ARISE – SEASON FOUR** has begun. There will be six faith sharing sessions that invite us to embrace in our lives a “New Heart, New Spirit.” The first session helps us to see Lent as a time to review our life choices and to measure them against the Scriptures. Lent is a time to get in touch with whom we really are, and who we are called to be. The rest of the season invites us to look at the power of forgiveness, the Church as the home for all God’s family, and freedom and peace as the first fruits of the Resurrection. Please join us for six wonderful and challenging weeks of Lent. *If you have any questions or want to be involved please call Barb Bimeal at 322-2810.*

**Session Schedule**

Tuesday, March 3, 10, 17, 24 - 7:00PM–8:30PM – led by Barb Bimeal  
Wednesday, March 4, 11, 18, 25- 6:00PM - 7:30PM – led by Michele Rivetti  
Thursday, March 5, 12, 19, 26 – 10:00AM – 11:30AM – led by Cel Neiderer  
Signup sheets can be found in the main vestibule. **All sessions take place at the former convent.**

**SYMBOLS OF THE PASSION OF JESUS**



During the First Week of Lent, a CROWN OF THORNS is placed on the cross to remind us that Jesus was crucified. He was crowned with of crown of thorns as a King “of a Kingdom that is not of this world” (John 18:36). The thorns were embedded in the head of Jesus causing excruciating pain. He allowed this to happen for you and me. My heart hears the stanza of the hymn WHEN

I BEHOLD THE WONDROUS CROSS “Did e’er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown.”

**Matthew 27:30** – Weaving a CROWN out of THORNS they fixed it on His head, and stuck a reed in His right hand. Then they began to mock Him by dropping to their knees before Him saying, “All hail the King of the Jews.” **Mark 15:17-18** – They dressed Him in royal purple, then wove a CROWN OF THORNS and put it on Him and began to salute Him, “All hail, King of the Jews.”

**John 19:2-3** – The soldiers then wove a CROWN OF THORNS and fixed it on His head, throwing around His shoulders a cloak of royal purple. Repeatedly they came up to Him and said, “All hail, King of the Jews, slapping His face as they did so.

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

James Edward Adams; Rose Blaschak, Odessa Bobak, Galynn Brady, Sister Carol Jean Czyrnik, LeAnn Golby, Caleb Herdman, Alicia Junghans, John Kasper, Kathryn Legat, Tyler McKinley, Rick McKinley, Margaret Murray, Carl Pavlosky, Rowen Ream, Alexandra Rice, Carly Rice, Doug 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 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, Wyo; 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, Afghanistan; Petty Officer 2<sup>nd</sup> Class, Gage Pollino, US Navy.**

*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 3:00PM - 4:00PM. We hold a prayer vigil across from the Franklin Street Planned Parenthood facility here in Johnstown. For more information, call Gale at 539-0155.

**BREAKFAST** sponsored by Resurrection Knights of Columbus – Sunday, March 1 from 8:30AM – Noon at Resurrection Church Hall. Adults - \$6.00, children under 12 free.

**ST. THERESE** Lenten Piroghi Sale – home-made potato and cheese piroghi made fresh each week during Lent. Call in orders every Monday starting February 24 until March 30 from 9:00AM until 11:00AM (539-7633). Cost is \$7.00 per dozen (with or without onions). Pick up your order on Fridays from 9:00AM until 2:00PM at our Social Hall, Upper Decker Avenue. No orders will be taken during Holy Week.

**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 12:30PM 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. Adoration during the Lenten Season (March & April) is from 12:30PM – 5:30PM.