

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

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

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.

FISH FRY - Friday, March 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.

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK will take place at the 4:00PM Mass on Saturday, March 14 and the 7:30AM & 9:30AM Masses on Sunday, March 15. According to Church guidelines this Sacrament is available to Catholics who have: reached the age of reason and begin to fall in danger of death as a result of illness or old age; who are undergoing surgery whenever a serious illness is the reason for the surgery; who are elderly if they have been noticeably weakened even though there is no serious illness present; sick children if they have sufficient use of reason to be strengthened by this Sacrament. We will celebrate this Sacrament of the Sick during Mass so that the gathered community can pray for our sisters and brothers who are being anointed. It is always better to associate a face with a name rather than just seeing a name on the sick list.

MOVIE NIGHT – Come join us on Sunday, March 8 after the 3:00PM Lamentations/Benediction 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. Make this a family affair!

CONZATTI PIZZA SALE to benefit the Gabriel Project on Saturday, March 28. Order forms are located 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.

EASTER EGG HUNT will take place on Sunday, April 5 for the children of the Parish from 1:00PM – 3:00PM at the Activity Center. Signup sheets can be found in the main vestibule. Deadline for signup – Sunday, March 29.

THE MARDI GRAS COMMITTEE would like to thank everyone for their hard work and for the success of the Mardi Gras held February 15. We are happy to announce the profit for this event was \$6,776.62. Best Mardi Gras yet! Your donations of baskets, liquor, etc. help to make a great success. May God Bless you for your efforts!

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEK: Adults - \$2,397.78; Children - \$9.00; Monthly - \$555.02; Holy Day - \$2.00; Loose - \$201.33; Candles - \$113.75; Register - \$5.00; Ash Wednesday - \$808.52; Catholic Relief - \$1.00; Mandeville - \$394.12; Black & Indian Mission - \$395.84; Donation - \$100 .00; Misc. - \$157.00. Total Collection - \$5,140.36. 172 out of 283 used envelopes last week. Your generosity for the second collections is greatly appreciated!

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 12, 19, 26 from 6:30PM – 7:30PM **in the Parish Office.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES

- Thursday, March 26 – St. Anthony of Padua, Windber – 6:00PM
- Tuesday, March 31 – Visitation – 5:30PM
- Monday, March 30 – 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. 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). 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. Lent is a time to get in touch with whom we really are, and who we are called to be. *If you have any questions or want to be involved please call Barb Bimeal at 322-2810.*

Session Schedule

- Tuesday, March 10, 17, 24 - 7:00PM–8:30PM – led by Barb Bimeal
 - Wednesday, March 11, 18, 25- 6:00PM - 7:30PM – led by Michele Rivetti
 - Thursday, March 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 Second Week of Lent, a WHIP is placed at the Cross to remind us that before Jesus was crucified, He underwent a brutal scourging. Whips were used which tore into His flesh causing wounds to bleed. He allowed this to happen for you and me. With Our Sorrowful Mother we pray: BRUISED, DERIDED, CURSED, DEFILED, SHE BEHELD HER TENDER CHILD, ALL WITH BLOODY SCOURGES RENT.

Matthew 27:26 - At that he (Pilate) released Barabbas to them. Jesus, however, he first SCOURGED, then he handed Him over to be crucified.

Mark 15:15 – So Pilate, who wished to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas to them and after he had Jesus SCOURGED, he handed Him over to be crucified.

Luke 23:22 – He said to them a third time, “What is this man guilty of? I have not discovered anything about Him that calls for the death penalty. I will therefore chastise Him and release Him.”

John 19 – Pilate’s next move was to take Jesus and have Him SCOURGED.

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, 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 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 Rován 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; **Petty Officer 2nd 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.

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.