

July 12, 2020
15th Sunday in Ordinary Time
**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
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Web Site: <http://www.stfrancisofassisijohnstown.com>
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

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS the family and friends of +Theodore Stefanick and +Edward Cable who were laid to rest last week. Welcoming God receive from our hands the loved ones we return to You.

WE REJOICE IN THE BAPTISM of Gianvanna Rose Rullo and congratulate her parents and Godparents as she begins her new life in Christ.

SANCTUARY CANDLE will burn this week in memory of +Kathy Bazyk by Husband Frank and children.

PARISH FAMILY PICNIC – Sunday, August 2 at Lorain Boro Park. Watch the bulletin for more details. Signup sheets will be available in the near future.

TRIP TO SIGHT AND SOUND THEATRE in Lancaster, PA on Thursday, August 27 for the 3:00PM showing of “Queen Esther.” Please call Fran King at 536-3667 for more information

THE 7-DAY VOTIVE CANDLES on the Sacred Heart Altar, below the picture of Divine Mercy, on the Altar of the Blessed Virgin Mary and under the picture of Pope St. John Paul the Great are available upon request to be lit for your intention. Please contact the Parish Office for your request. Please place your donation in an envelope marked Candles and place it in the locked box on the back wall between the statues of St. Jude and St. Clare of Assisi or in the collection basket when Mass is in the Activity Center on the weekends.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEK: Adults - \$3,072.52; Children - \$14.00; Loose - \$145.00; Monthly - \$410.02; Easter - \$50.00; Candles - \$39.00; St. Vincent de Paul - \$50.00; Pentecost - \$3.00; Cemetery - \$103.00; Peter Pence - \$13.00; Missalettes - \$90.02; Donation - \$16.00; Misc. - \$51.25. Total Collection - \$4,056.81. This is truly outstanding!

Thank you Parishioners who are continuing to send in/bring in your offering envelopes. It is deeply appreciated! God Bless! Fr. Anthony Francis

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.

OUTDOOR MASS HONORING MARRIED COUPLES – The Altoona-Johnstown Family is invited to participate and pray for those living the Sacrament of Marriage at an Outdoor Mass honoring Married Couples on Sunday evening, July 19 at 7:00PM at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Alleghenies in Loretto. Bring a lawn chair. Indoors if rain. Bishop Mark is the celebrant and homilist. This is a wonderful way to celebrate, encourage and support married couples!

BISHOP MARK and the Family Life Office cordially invite all couples celebrating 1, 5, 10, 25, 40, 50, 55, and 60+ Wedding Anniversary in 2020 (and their families) to attend the Annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgy. Couples may attend Sunday, September 13 in Altoona at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament or Sunday, September 20 in Johnstown at St. John Gualbert Cathedral. Both locations are handicap accessible. Liturgies in each location begin at 2:00PM. Bishop Mark will be the celebrant and homilist at each celebration. Refreshments/snacks will be available after the Mass for anniversary couples and their families. *Reservations must be made through your parish by Wednesday, August 19.*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday – August 2 – Parish Family Picnic
Thursday, August 27 – Trip to Sight and Sound Theatre

Father McGivney to be Beatified

Pope Francis approved the promulgation of a decree recognizing a miracle attributed to the intercession of the founder of the Knights of Columbus, Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney, a Connecticut Priest who served his flock during the pandemic of 1890, before himself becoming ill and dying of pneumonia, with the underlying condition of tuberculosis.

The Pope's action on May 26, which was announced the next day by the Vatican, means that Father McGivney can be declared Blessed, the step just prior to Sainthood. An additional miracle attributed to Father McGivney's intercession will be required for his canonization as a Saint.

Father McGivney is best known for founding the Knights of Columbus in 1882. Nearly a century before the Second Vatican Council, his prescient vision empowered the laity to serve the Church and neighbor in a new way. Today, the Knights of Columbus is one of the largest Catholic organizations in the world with 2 million members in North and Latin America, the Caribbean, Asia and Europe.

The approved miracle involved an unborn child in the United States who was healed *in utero* of a life-threatening condition in 2015 after prayers by his family to Father McGivney.

A date will soon be set for the Beatification Mass, which will take place in the Archdiocese of Hartford, Conn. The ceremony will include the reading of an apostolic letter from the Holy Father and the bestowing of the title Blessed on Father McGivney.

Earlier this year, in an address to the Knights of Columbus Board of Directors, Pope Francis said the organization has been faithful "to the vision of your founder, Venerable Michael McGivney, who was inspired by the principles of Christian charity and fraternity to assist those most in need."

"Father McGivney has inspired generations of Catholic men to roll up their sleeves and put their Faith into action," Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson said. "He was decades ahead of his time in giving the laity an important role within the Church. Today, his spirit continues to shape the extraordinary charitable work of Knights as they continue to serve those on the margins of society as he served widows and orphans in the 1880s. Father McGivney also remains an important role model for parish Priests around the world and left us a transformative legacy of effective cooperation between the laity and clergy."

Born of Irish immigrant parents in 1852 in Waterbury, Father McGivney was a central figure in the dramatic growth of the Church in the United States in the late 19th century. Ordained in Baltimore in 1877, he ministered to a heavily Irish-American and immigrant community in the then-Diocese of Hartford. At a time of anti-Catholic sentiment, he worked tirelessly to keep his flock close to the Faith, in part by finding practical solutions to their many problems – spiritual and temporal alike. With a group of the leading Catholic men of New Haven, he founded the Knights of Columbus in 1882 at St. Mary's Church to provide spiritual support for Catholic men and financial resources for families that had suffered the loss of their breadwinner.

The fledgling group soon became a major force in the areas of evangelization, charity, racial integration and the defense of religious freedom.

Father McGivney spent his entire priesthood in parish ministry and died on August 14, 1890 – two days past his 38th birthday – after falling ill amid a pandemic. Recent scientific evidence indicates that that pandemic – like the current one – may have been caused by a coronavirus.

Known by his contemporaries for his devotion to the Faith and his embodiment of the characteristics of the "Good Samaritan," his cause for Sainthood was opened in the Archdiocese of Hartford in 1997. St. John Paul the Great – who was Pope at that time – lauded Father McGivney's principles, stating in 2003, "In fidelity to the vision of Father McGivney, may you continue to seek new ways of being a leaven of the Gospel in the world and a spiritual force for the renewal of the Church in holiness, unity and truth."

In March 2008, he was declared a Venerable Servant of God by Pope Benedict XVI, who during his visit to St. Patrick's Cathedral cited the "remarkable accomplishment of that exemplary American Priest, the Venerable Michael McGivney, whose vision and zeal led to the establishment of the Knights of Columbus."

Two recent books also tell the story of Father McGivney and his legacy: *Parish Priest* (2006), his biography; and the *The Knight of Columbus: An Illustrated History* (2020).

More information is also available at fathermcgivney.org. Vivat Jesus!

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

James Edward Adams; Rose Blaschak, Odessa Bobak, Galynn Brady, Sister Carol Jean Czrynik, Verne Esposito, LeAnn Golby, Caleb Herdman, Alicia Junghans, John Kasper, Kathryn Legat, Tyler McKinley, Rick McKinley, Margaret Murray, Carl Pavlosky, Rowen Ream, Kathy Reddy, Alexandra Rice, Carly Rice, Doug Rice, Rose Rice, James Schuster, Gary Singel, Betty Spisak, Joanna Stone, Carol Sobbecky, 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 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.

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. 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.

OUTDOOR MASS: To be celebrated at Holy Cross Cemetery in Jerome each Sunday night from June 28th until Labor Day beginning at 6:00 PM. In event of inclement weather, the Mass will be celebrated in St. Anne Church in Davidsville.