

October 4, 2020
Our Holy Father St. Francis of Assisi
26th 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
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Rectory Phone – 814-539-1632
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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
Men’s Club – Gregory Solomon

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 +Elizabeth Bodnar 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, October 5 at 6:00PM. Please join us for Rosary, Reflection and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

WE HAD HOPED to have a dinner & movie in honor of our Patronal Saint – Our Holy Father St. Francis on the actual date of his Feast – Sunday, October 4. But looking at the 2 events – Annual Marian Celebration & the Prayer Chain for Life to be held the same day, I think that our Patron Holy Father St. Francis would prefer that we attend one or both of these events instead. We will look for a different date in the future.

A Fish Fry has been scheduled for **Friday, October 9** for **TAKE OUT ONLY**. Thanks again to all who volunteered for the last Fish Fry. If you are willing to share some of your time, please contact the Parish Office. The wearing of masks and social distancing protocols will be in place. *Orders will be taken by calling the Activity Center at 539-3518 on Thursday, October 8 from 8:00AM until 11:00AM and on Friday, October 9 from 8:00AM until ?*



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – THANK YOU to all who attended the first Parent Meeting last week. *The next meeting will take place on Sunday, October 11 immediately following the 9:30AM Mass.* This meeting will take place in the Activity Center. Those who were not in attendance are reminded that **PARENTS ARE THE PRIMARY TEACHERS OF THEIR CHILDREN IN THE WAYS OF FAITH!**

SANCTUARY CANDLE will burn this week for +Christin Barnes and +Raymond A. Barnes by Jim & Sue Ellen Dadey.

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 placed on the table in front of the Holy Family statue.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEK: Adults - \$3,082.25; Children - \$14.00; Loose - \$83.00; Monthly - \$473.00; St. Vincent de Paul - \$100.00; Easter - \$50.00; Retired Priest - \$117.00; Missalettes - \$58.00; Holy Day - \$70.00; Holy Thursday - \$35.00; Good Friday - \$30.00; Pentecost - \$35.00. Total Collection - \$4,157.25. *Thank you Parishioners who are continuing to send in/bring in your offering envelopes. It is deeply appreciated! God Bless! Fr. Anthony Francis*

ANNUAL MARIAN CELEBRATION – Family Mass and Rosary, Sunday, October 4 at 3:00PM at St. Benedict Church. The theme this year: Our Mother of Good Council in a Time of Pandemic. Bishop Mark will be the Principal Celebrant. Masks and Social Distancing will be required.

PRAYER CHAIN FOR LIFE will be held on Sunday, October 4 from 1-2PM on Broad Street near former St. Columba Parish. Come stand in support of the pro-life cause and pray for a deepening Respect for Life. Signs will be provided. For information call Gale at 539-0155.

AMERICA FOR FATIMA is sponsoring a Public Square Rosary Rally on Saturday, October 10 at 12Noon outside St. Francis of Assisi Church. Face mask required, bring a Rosary, dress for weather and bring a chair if desired.

*Prayer to St. Corona
Patroness of Epidemic Victims*



Lord Jesus Christ, You came into this world for our salvation. Look kindly on us now, we pray, that we, and all those who serve You, might be kept safe from this epidemic. Heal those who are sick, comfort the suffering, bring back those who have gone astray, and above all, increase our Faith, O Lord.

Give us the Grace to follow You and, like the Martyr St. Corona, who gave her life for love of You, to take up our crosses daily without fear or hesitation.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

St. Corona, Patroness of epidemic victims, pray for us. Amen.

St. Francis of Assisi

Francesco, the son of Peter Bernadone, a wealthy merchant of Assisi, was born in the year 1182. He was generous, fun-loving of good humor, handsome and a popular youth of Assisi. His ambition was to become a knight in the service of his beloved city, Assisi. In a battle against the neighboring city of Perugia, he was wounded and taken prisoner to return to Assisi a year later a physically and spiritually broken young man. Upon recovering he was a changed person. He began to experience a great longing for perfection, heroic self-conquest and a longing to recognize God's will in his life. Francis so loved especially the poor that he frequently associated with them. Complying with a Divine Command he went about begging for stones to repair dilapidated churches around Assisi. His father, enraged with his conduct, brought his son before the Bishop of Assisi whereby Francis returned to his father not only money but also the clothes he wore saying: "Now I can truly say, Our Father, Who art in Heaven." The Bishop provided him with a beggar's garment and thus began Francis' new life of seeking God's Will in all things. In 1208, Francis while attending Mass at the Portiuncula heard in the Gospel in which Our Lord commissioned His Apostles to carry nothing with themselves, garbed himself in a penitential garb, girded with a cord, without shoes, entered upon a life of complete poverty and began to preach penance. Several prominent young men of Assisi joined him and when they were eleven, they went to Rome where Pope Innocent III gave approval to the new order. They lived in severest poverty and in brotherly harmony preaching penance to the people both by word and by example. St. Francis called them Friars Minor so that they might always regard the virtue of humility as the foundation of perfection. In order to open the way of perfection for all who wished to imitate his life, he established a second order (The Poor Clares) and a Third Order for people of both sexes living in the world. It was above all the Passion and Death of Christ on the Cross that filled his heart with love of his Savior as he strove to become as similar to the object of his love that two years before his death, on Mount LaVerna the Crucified Savior appeared to St. Francis in the form of a Seraph and impressed on his body the marks of the Five Sacred Wounds. Lying on the bare ground, in imitation of his Savior's death on the Cross, St. Francis died on October 3, 1226. Due to the miracles attributed to St. Francis and because his renown was known throughout the world, Pope Gregory IX came to Assisi and on Sunday, July 16, 1228 (less than two years after his death) and canonized St. Francis.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

James Edward Adams; Rose Blaschak, Odessa Bobak, Galynn Brady, Sister Carol Jean Czynnik, Verne Esposito, LeAnn Golby, Caleb Herdman, Alicia Junghans, Kathryn Legat, Tyler McKinley, Rick McKinley, Margaret Murray, Carl Pavlosky, Cecilia Pribish, 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, Rebecca Woodruff, 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; **LCDR Kara Yingling**, San Diego; **LCDR Shannon Yingling**; **S/SSgt Devon Gilbert**, Kadena Air Force Base, Okinawa; **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; **Sgt. Adken Torchia**, US Army, Fort Drum, NY; **Sgt. Lucas Tomak**, US Army, Fort Hood, TX; **Lt. Kenneth Yacynych**, US Army, Fort Lewis, WA; **Sgt. Elliott Mulvehill**, USMC, Ginowan, Japan.; **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; **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.

ST. ANDREW'S KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS council will be sponsoring a public Rosary for the JPD and neighboring police departments in front of the JPD building in downtown Johnstown at 401 Washington St. on Friday, October 9 at 3:00PM. We have permission to be there and will be especially petitioning St. Michael the Archangel, Patron Saint of policemen, to protect our police so they can protect us. Please come and pray with us. Questions? Please call Karl Komara at 814-270-3810.