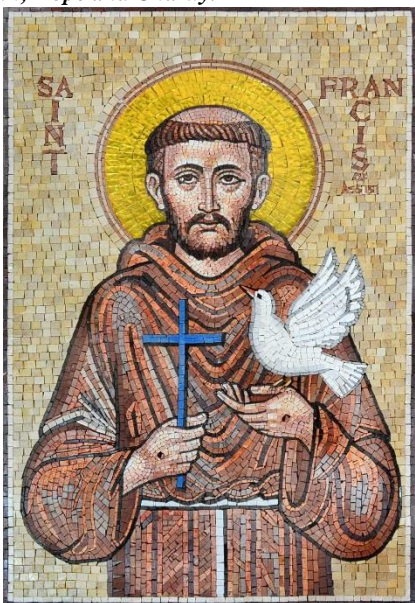


July 4, 2021
14th Sunday in Ordinary Time
THE FAITH COMMUNITY OF
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Mission Statement: St. Francis of Assisi is a Roman Catholic worshipping Community of Faith, dedicated to the concept of putting "Christ first" in our hearts, lives, family and community, with the hope that our world can become a better place and that we can all be made worthy to enter into the Kingdom of God. Our 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 – stfrancisich@atlanticbnn.net
Oremus Ministry (Prayer Chain) – 814-539-1632
Web Site: <http://www.stfrancisofassisijohnstown.com>
Parish Secretary – Carol Pisula
Office Hours – 9:00AM to 3:00PM – Tues. 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
Rosary Society – Cecilia Neiderer

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 – No meeting during summer months

PLEASE NOTE: Parish Office will be CLOSED on Monday, July 5. *Beginning Tuesday, July 6 office hours will be Tuesday through Thursday from 9:00AM until 3:00PM.*

ROSARY SOCIETY will NOT meet on Monday, July 5.

SAVE THE DATES: Sunday, Aug. 1 – Parish Picnic, Lorain Boro Park. Baskets are needed to chance off for our St. Francis Parish Picnic. Suggested value for donated baskets is \$20-\$25. Individual items could also be donated. Please bring to the Church or call Gale Bala (539-0155) or Cecilia Neiderer (534-0602) for information. **Signup sheet for the Parish Picnic can be found in the main vestibule. Deadline for signup: Sunday, July 18.**

Thursday, Aug. 19 – Trip to Sight & Sound – Queen Esther – For reservations and details for Sight and Sound please contact Fran King at 536-3667.

CANDLE BY OUR LADY QUEEN OF HEAVEN will burn this week for the 58th Wedding Anniversary of Joe & Paulette Torchia. **SANCTUARY CANDLE** will burn for +Margaret “Peggy” Dadey by Jim, Sue Ellen and Bea.

LOOKING AHEAD - St. Francis of Assisi Parish was established in 1922 as a Slovak ethnic Parish in the West End of Johnstown, PA. The 1st Mass of the Parish was celebrated December 24, 1922. The present Parish Council is in the process of planning a 100th Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, October 2, 2022 (time to be determined) with a Mass celebrated by (Bishop Mark???) followed by an anniversary dinner. The question is: are you willing to assist the planning committee? If so, please contact the Parish Office at 539-1632. More information to follow in the coming weeks.

FLOWERS in the Church this week are in honor of the 70th Wedding Anniversary of +John & Dee Kasper by Dee, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

CONTRIBUTIONS WEEK OF JUNE 20: Loose - \$106.00; Adults - \$1,880.77; Children - \$206.00; Monthly - \$10.00; Candles - \$134.25; St. Vincent - \$18.00; Father’s Day - \$326.00; Holy Day - \$10.00. Total Collection - \$2,687.02. **CONTRIBUTIONS WEEK OF JUNE 27:** Loose - \$178.00; Adults - \$1,963.27; Children - \$10.00; Monthly - \$40.00; Candles - \$139.50; St. Vincent - \$15.00; Peter Pence - \$91.00; Pentecost - \$5.00; Father’s Day - \$35.00; Catholic Communication - \$15.00. Total Collection - \$2,491.77.

PLEASE DO NOT bring any religious items (books, pamphlets, rosaries, etc.) to the Church because of ongoing concerns for sanitation. Thanks for your cooperation.

OPPORTUNITY FOR EMPLOYMENT – There is an opening for the position of Parish Secretary at St. Francis of Assisi Church. This position needs to be filled as soon as possible. Tentative hours are Monday through Thursday 8:00AM – 3:00PM. If you or someone you know is interested please contact the Parish Office or fr. Anthony Francis as soon as possible. All clearances are required and must be obtained before employment begins.

NEEDED: In order for the Fish Fry to continue in the fall a new coordinator(s) is needed. The Fish Fry is a very important fund raiser as well as a social event for the entire community. If you are willing to accept this task please contact the Parish Office as soon as possible so planning for the fall may begin.

A Prayer for Independence Day – God, source of all freedom, this day is bright with the memory of those who declared that life and liberty are Your gift to every human being. Help us to continue a good work begun long ago. Make our vision clear and our will strong: that only in human solidarity will we find liberty, and justice only in the honor that belongs to every life on earth. Turn our hearts toward the family of nations: to understand the ways of others, to offer friendship, and to find safety only in the common good of all. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Background on the Gospel Reading
Mark 6:1-6*

This Gospel immediately follows upon last week’s stories of the raising of Jarius’ daughter and the healing of the woman with a hemorrhage. It sets the context of our Gospel readings for the next two weeks in which Jesus will extend the work of His ministry to His Disciples.

Today’s Gospel describes what many believe to have been the typical pattern of Jesus’ ministry: teaching in the synagogue followed by acts of healing. In His hometown of Nazareth, the people are amazed by what they hear, but they also cannot comprehend how someone they know so well might move them so powerfully.

In this Gospel, we learn some interesting details about Jesus and His early life. Jesus' kinfolk know Him to be a carpenter, an artisan Who works in wood, stone, and metal. He probably learned this trade from His father. Family members of Jesus are also named. Mark describes Jesus as the Son of Mary, which is an unusual designation. Adult males were more typically identified with the name of their fathers. It is unclear why Mark deviates from this custom. Brothers and sisters of Jesus are also named. Scholars are divided on how to interpret this. As Catholics, we believe that Mary was and remained always a virgin, thus we do not believe that this Gospel refers to other children of Mary. Some have suggested that these family members might be Joseph's children from a previous marriage, but there is little evidence to support this. Others explain this reference by noting that the words *brother* and *sister* were often used to refer to other types of relatives, including cousins, nieces, and nephews.

This Gospel tells us that Jesus is hampered from performing miracles in Nazareth because of the people's lack of Faith. Jesus is said to be surprised by this. He did not predict or foresee this rejection. In this detail we find a description of the very human side of Jesus.

This passage unfolds a continuing theme of Mark's Gospel: Who is Jesus? His kinfolk in Nazareth might know the carpenter, the Son of Mary, but they do not know Jesus, the Son of God. Mark is foreshadowing Jesus' rejection by His own people, the people of Israel. He is also reflecting on and trying to explain the situation of the community for which he wrote. While many of the first Christians were Jewish, Christianity took hold and flourished in the Gentile community. Mark's community was mostly a Gentile community, who may have been experiencing persecution. By showing that Jesus Himself was rejected, Mark consoles and reassures his first readers. He also prepares us to accept this possible consequence of Christian discipleship.

St. Joseph, a Tender Loving Father

Patris Corde, 2. A Tender and Loving Father, Man of Compassion

Joseph was never quoted in the Gospels, but he spoke through his actions. When Mary became pregnant, but before she was living with Joseph, he had decided to divorce her quietly to spare her life. However, after an Angel spoke to him in a dream about how she would be the mother of the Son of God, he took her into his home as his wife. "In the synagogue, during the praying of the Psalms, Joseph would surely have heard again and again that the God of Israel is a God of tender love, Who is good to all, Whose compassion is over all that He has made." (Ps 145:9) St. Joseph, a tender loving father, man of compassion, pray for us. (Pope Francis Apostolic Letter *Patris Corde*, 2. Dec. 8, 2020); 2021, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Committee, Liturgy Office, *Mary, Mother of the Church Pastoral Center*, 2713 W. Chestnut Ave., Altoona, PA 16601

Stewardship Reflection... Being able to recognize and admit our short comings is essential for us to have the strength Paul demonstrates. The reason St. Paul finds strength in his limitations is because he is aware that the Lord will provide the power needed in the midst of those deficiencies, "My Grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." Living discipleship through stewardship, giving of ourselves for one another, living completely for the sake of the Gospel is countercultural. Like Ezekiel we must trust God's Words. The way one can best follow stewardship as a way of life is to remember that we are not alone. Even Jesus Himself dealt with opposition. Humility is an important trait in living a life of stewardship. May we pray for the strength of God's presence and be willing to seek humility to find our personal strengths. May we continue to live our commitment to serve others as Jesus taught when He continued to bring others to His Father through acts of love even in the midst of being rejected.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

James Edward Adams, Odessa Bobak, Galynn Brady, Doreen Chiodo, Sister Carol Jean Czynnik, Jim Dadey, Verne Esposito, Alicia Junghans, Tyler McKinley, Rick McKinley, Paulette Mirilovich, Margaret Murray, Rowen Ream, Alexandra Rice, Carly Rice, Doug Rice, Rose Rice, James Schuster, Gary Singel, Betty Spisak, Joanna Stone, Carol Sobecky, Leona Sutt, Agnes Swarney, Joe Torchia, Sheila Weppner.

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; **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, **Sgt. Bryan Maxwell Porath**, **Captain Aaron Donahey**, US Army, Ft. 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;; **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.

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA, Windber, will have their Ethnic Festival Food the weekend of July 10 and 11 for take-out only. Saturday, July 10 from 3:00PM – 7:00PM and Sunday, July 11 from 11:00AM – 4:00PM.

CALLING ALL GOLFERS – Resurrection Parish is pleased to announce our *Inaugural Resurrection Fun Day of Golf* on Saturday, August 7th at 9:00AM, from beautiful Oakbrook Golf Course in Jennerstown, PA. Only \$60 per golfer! 18-holes with carts, delicious lunch afterwards, skill prizes and great cash prizes for our winners. Hurry! First 18 teams of 4-players get the spots. Call Pat Barrett at (814) 532-6567 to reserve your spot!