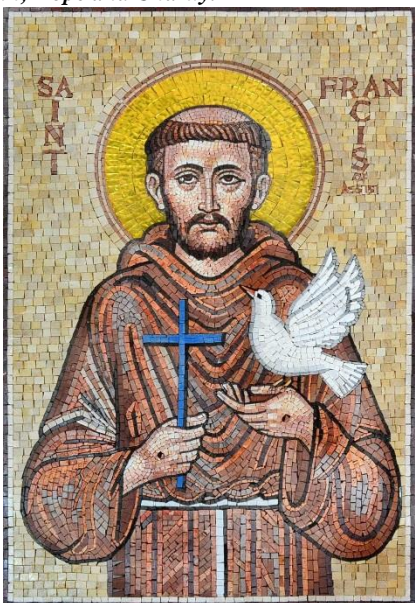


June 13, 2021
11th Sunday in Ordinary Time
THE FAITH COMMUNITY OF
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

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 – 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
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: The Parish Office will be **CLOSED** Monday, June 21 thru Friday, June 25. *Beginning Tuesday, July 6 office hours will be Tuesday through Thursday from 9:00AM until 3:00PM.*

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.

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

GOB SALE – There will be a Gob Sale on Saturday, June 26 from 9:00AM until 12:00PM at the Activity Center. A perfect addition to your 4th of July picnic!

A GENTLE REMINDER – For the time being, if you choose to wear a mask that is completely acceptable. However, if you have not received the 2 vaccinations, please for the time being, wear a mask. The chairs under the Stations of the Cross will remain in place for those of you who might feel uncomfortable in the re-opened pews. I ask that we all be charitable in dealing with the decision made by those vaccinated and those not vaccinated. Be kind, be charitable and be loving.

THANK YOU to all who used the special Church envelopes to contribute to the Gabriel Project Pro-Life Ministry. Your generosity helps to supply much needed items to the babies and their families.



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.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEK: Adults - \$2,028.04; Loose - \$156.00; Children - \$10.00; Monthly - \$931.02; Candles - \$126.05; St. Vincent - \$30.00; Mother's Day - \$10.00; Holy Day - \$10.00; Cemetery - \$20.02; Father's Day - \$252.00; Peter's Pence - \$10.00; Pentecost - \$25.00; Catholic Communication - \$37.00; Misc. - \$100.00. Total Collection - \$3,745.13

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.

Stewardship Reflection... In Ezekiel's version of the prophecy by Isaiah we hear that God promises to bring forth a wonderful and productive growth – Jesus. St. Paul's prospective of being a branch or a limb from a tree compares us to the Body of Christ, the Church. The branches can each serve a different purpose, but all be combined to produce the fruits of the whole. Each of us is important to the "Tree of Life," which is held together by the Holy Spirit.

Only God can truly make us what we are to be and what we are called to be as part of the Body of Christ. We are all accountable for the gifts God has given us on Earth – our time, talent and treasure. One day each of us will be asked by God what we did with those gifts. How will you respond? (*Stewardship Reflection, Catholic Stewardship Consultants, Inc. 2018/6/01*)

Background on the Gospel Reading

After Lent, the Easter Season, and three Sundays of Feast Days – Pentecost, Most Holy Trinity, and Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ – the Church returns to Ordinary Time. This Sunday's Gospel from Mark carries a significant message regarding Faith and the Kingdom of God.

In Mark's Gospel, Jesus appears reluctant to reveal His identity as the Son of God. After performing miracles of healing, He warns those cured to tell no one (see Mark 1:44, 3:12, 5:43, 7:36, and 8:26). Also, when preaching, Jesus

chooses to speak to the crowds in parables, leaving them to discern His message. Only to His Disciples does He explain the parable's meaning, and He does this in private at a later time.

Today's Gospel Reading consists of two parables about seeds. In the first, Jesus tells those gathered that this is "how it is with the Kingdom of God". A man scatters seed which over time sprouts and develops. Then when the grain is ripe, the man harvests his crop. The emphasis in the parable is on the seed, which seemingly has the power to grow on its own. In this it is like the Kingdom of God. While on earth, Jesus planted the seeds of the Kingdom by His life, miracles, teaching, and suffering. However, the Kingdom is not fully established. Although already present in Jesus and His group of Twelve, it has yet to come to fruition; yet just as the seed in the parable needs time to grow, so does God's Kingdom.

The second parable focuses on the tiny mustard seed. Though not the smallest of all seeds, it is most likely the smallest that a first-century farmer in Jesus' part of the world would have sown. Small as the mustard seed is, it develops into a tree. Though the mustard tree generally averages only nine to twelve feet in height, it has a wide expanse and provides a nesting place for birds. Just as the tree welcomes the birds, so is God's Kingdom welcoming and open to many.

These parables help us discern something about the Kingdom of God and our own Faith. In God we live and move and have our being, but God is a mystery and His Kingdom, though present, has not yet come into its fullness. Today, the Kingdom of God is present in the Church. The mission of proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom given to the Apostles is now given to us. But just as seeds need time to come to fruition, so does the Kingdom of God. That is why in the Lord's Prayer, we pray, "thy Kingdom come." We know that it will come in its fullness at the end of time. All we need is Faith.

THE PARISH OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI would like to extend Congratulations and God's Blessings of Good Health, Much Happiness and Profound Holiness upon Graduation from Middle School, High School and College!



We celebrate the achievements of our Graduates with this prayer. Here is a short prayer from the Book of Jeremiah, combined with a blessing from the Book of Numbers, that reminds us that God has a plan for those taking this step forward:

For I know well the plans I have in mind for you...plans for your welfare and not for woe, so as to give you a future of hope. When you call Me, and come and pray to Me, I will listen to you. When you look for Me, you will find Me. Yes, when you seek Me with all your heart, I will let you find Me...and I will change your lot. (Jeremiah 29:11-14.

The Lord bless you and keep you! The Lord let His face shine upon you and be gracious to you! The Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace! (Numbers 6:24-26) and the Blessing of St. Francis of Assisi, Patron of our Parish.

FISH FRY: Profit for the Lenten Fish Fries: \$16,333.84. THANK YOU who all contributed in any way with the success of the Fish Fries.

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 an 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.

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 Sobacky, Leona Sutt, Agnes Swarney, Joe Torchia, Sheila Weppner.

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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 Rowan 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 Donahay, US Army, Ft. Steward, 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. There will be NO all day adoration on Friday, July 2.

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!

