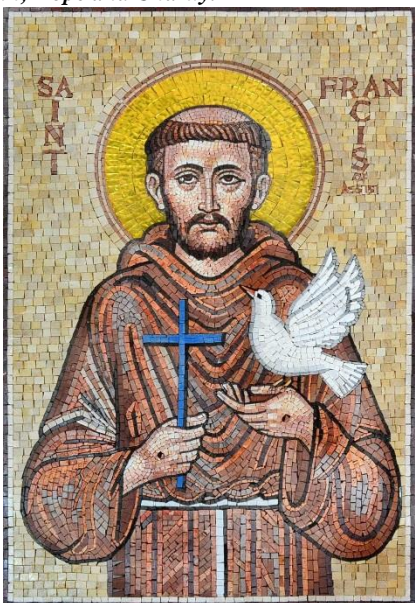


June 27, 2021
13th Sunday in Ordinary Time
THE FAITH COMMUNITY OF
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

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@atlanticbhn.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: 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.*

THERE WILL NOT BE ALL DAY ADORATION on Friday, July 2 and the 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.

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.

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 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.

“If people are pronounced dead when their heart stops beating, why aren’t babies pronounced alive when their heart starts beating.” Mattea Merta

*Background on the Gospel Reading
Mark 5:21-43*

For today’s Gospel, we continue to read from the Gospel of Mark. Last Sunday we heard about Jesus calming the storm, the first of four miracles that Jesus performs in the vicinity of the Sea of Galilee. Each of these four miracle stories offers us a glimpse at Jesus’ power. This week we hear about the third and fourth miracles, skipping the second miracle, the healing of a man from Gerasene who was possessed by a demon.

Today’s Gospel reports two stories of healing. One story tells us about a father’s great love for his dying daughter. The other story tells us about a desperate woman who risks much as she seeks healing from Jesus. In each story, the request for healing is itself a courageous act of Faith, and yet very different circumstances are represented by the lives of each suffering person.

Jarius is described as a synagogue official, a man of considerable standing in the Jewish community. Distraught over his daughter's poor health, he approaches Jesus and asks him to heal her. Although Mark doesn't provide many details, we can imagine that his daughter has been ill for some time and that her condition is deteriorating.

As Jesus leaves with Jarius, Mark describes a second person who seeks healing from Jesus, a woman with a hemorrhage. This woman secretly touches Jesus from behind and is immediately cured. In response, Jesus turns and asks who touched Him. Jesus' Disciples, always a little clueless in Mark's Gospel, helps us envision the scene. The crowds are pushing in on Jesus, and yet He, knowing that power has gone out of Him, asks who touched Him. The woman could have remained anonymous, yet at Jesus' question she steps forward and acknowledges what she has done. Jesus responds by acknowledging her as a model of Faith and sends her away in peace.

At this point, we can imagine Jarius's impatience with Jesus; his daughter is dying and Jesus hasn't helped him yet. As if to build a sense of urgency, messengers suddenly arrive and confirm Jarius's worst fear; his daughter has died. Jesus curiously ignores their message and reassures Jarius. When they arrive a Jarius's home, they find family and friends mourning the girl's death. Jesus enters the room of the dead girl, takes her by the hand, and instructs her to arise. Jarius's Faith in Jesus has not been in vain; his daughter is restored to life.

The contrasts between Jarius and the woman with the hemorrhage are stark and revealing. One is a man, the other is a woman. One is a public official, an important person in the community. The other is a woman who has lost everything to find a cure to a condition that separated her from the community. One approaches Jesus publicly. The other approaches Jesus secretly. Yet in each case, Faith leads them to seek out Jesus in their time of need.

The Gospel concludes with Jesus' instructions to remain silent about this miracle. This is typical of Mark's Gospel and is sometimes referred to as the messianic secret. Repeatedly, those who witness Jesus' power and authority are instructed to not speak of what they have witnessed. These instructions appear impossible to obey, and it is difficult to understand the purpose of these instructions. But in each case, they seem to emphasize the fact that each individual, including the reader of Mark's Gospel, must, in the end make his or her own judgment about Jesus' identity. Each individual must make his or her own act of Faith in affirming Jesus as God's Son.

*Stewardship Reflection...*The First Reading from the Book of Wisdom explains to us the importance of striving to understand the mysteries of Faith. However, the great challenge is the action, living it out in our daily lives. That demonstrates wisdom.

Today's second reading speaks clearly of Christian stewardship, "out of His richness, Jesus became poor, and through His poverty, he became rich." Share all your gifts in justice and love. You allow others to meet their *needs* by denying yourself of your *wants*.

The idea of "free will" can be a bit of a burden. Like Jesus Himself, Paul makes it clear that people are able to exercise free will in what they give and what they share, Whether we are Disciples and whether we practice stewardship, or not, is a matter of personal choice. Yet Jesus did "command" us to love one another. If we are truly striving to do just that, it is difficult to do it without being a good steward. (*Stewardship Reflection*, Catholic Stewardship Consultants, Inc. 2015/6/28)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

James Edward Adams, Odessa Bobak, Galynn Brady, Doreen Chiodo, Sister Carol Jean Czryrnik, 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 Rovon 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. 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!