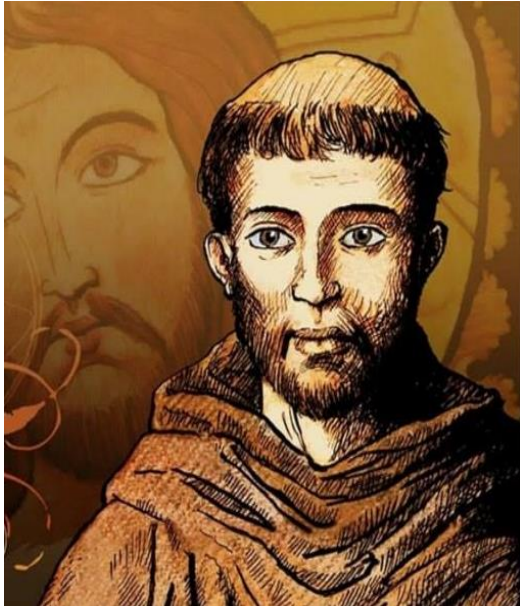


**November 21, 2021**  
*Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe*  
**THE FAITH COMMUNITY OF**  
**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI**

*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– [stfrancisofassisi@atlanticbbn.net](mailto:stfrancisofassisi@atlanticbbn.net)**

**Oremus Ministry (Prayer Chain) – 814-539-1632**

**Web Site: <http://www.stfrancisofassisijohnstown.com>**

**Parish Secretary – Megan Billow-Berchick**

**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 – Deacon Bruce Becker**

**Men's Club – Acting President, David King**

**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** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 +James Dadey who was laid to rest last week. Welcoming God receive from our hands the Loved Ones we return to You.

**PARISH OFFICE** – Will close at 12 NOON on Wednesday November 24<sup>th</sup> and will reopen on Monday, November 29<sup>th</sup>. **HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**

**THANKSGIVING DAY MASS** – will be celebrated at 9:00AM.

**\*\*\*OFFERTORY ENVELOPES\*\*\*** – **2022 Offertory Envelopes are delayed from the Manufacturer, when we receive them they will be placed in the back of the Church as soon as possible.**

**GIVING TREES** – are now located at the rear of the Church. We encourage each of you to consider taking an ornament from one (or all) of the trees. The first tree contains names of children submitted by the Cambria City Mission. Gifts should be wrapped with the ornament and returned to the Church or Parish Office no later than Sunday, December 12, 2021.

The ornaments on the second tree are for Giant Eagle gift cards that will be distributed to those who need to purchase food items for the holiday season. The gift cards should be placed in the collection basket (**please do not place them under the tree!**) or brought to the Parish Office.

The Gabriel Project Tree has tags with suggestions for gifts for the babies and families being served by the Gabriel Project. Gifts should be returned no later than Sunday, December 12, 2021.

**MEN'S CLUB** – Will be meeting on December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30PM at the Activity Center. New Members are always welcome!!

**ALL SOULS PICTURE PICKUP** - Those of you who brought in pictures of loved ones for the month of All Souls, are being asked to please pick up your pictures at your earliest convenience off of the Hill of Remembrance in the Sanctuary. Please leave the name tag behind for future use. Thank You!

**OREMUS MINISTRY (PRAYER CHAIN)** – We are seeking new members for the Oremus Ministry. If you would be willing to help people in need through prayer, Please contact the Parish Office at (814)539-1632.

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY** – We will be holding our Annual Children's Christmas Party on December 5 at the Activity Building from 1-3PM. Children up to age 12 are welcome to join. Sign-up sheet is in the Main Vestibule. **Last day for sign-ups is (this weekend) November 21<sup>st</sup>.**

**OUR ANNUAL** – Non-perishable food and household items collection for the Joe Bartko Memorial, St. Vincent De Paul Food Kitchen has begun. Parishioners are asked to share their bounty from God with those less fortunate. Monetary donations will also be accepted and may be placed in the envelope included with the bulletin. Donations should be non-perishable and NO glass containers. Suggested items include canned vegetables, pasta, cereal, tuna, soup, stuffing mix, cake mix, salt, pepper, paper products (paper towels, toilet paper, napkins, etc.). Please use the bag provided in the vestibule for your donations. **Collection will end Sunday, November 21<sup>st</sup>. Your generosity is already outstanding!!**

**LOOKING AHEAD** - St. Francis of Assisi Parish was established in 1922 as a Slovak ethnic Parish in the West End of Johnstown, PA. The 1<sup>st</sup> Mass of the Parish was celebrated December 24, 1922. The present Parish Council is in the process of planning a 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, October 16, 2022 at 12Noon with a Mass celebrated by Bishop Mark followed by an anniversary dinner. More info coming soon.

**PARISH DIRECTORY** – Since St. Francis Parish is celebrating our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year, plans are being made to create a new picture directory of parishioners. We need to know how many parishioners are interested in having their photograph included. We are asking all interested persons to sign up in the main vestibule. We need to have at least 75 parishioners sign up to be able to go ahead with the project. For more information contact Georgie at (814)535-4252, Alice (814)536-0948, or Gale (814)539-0155.

### Background on the Gospel Reading

This Sunday is the last Sunday of the Church's liturgical year. On this Sunday we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King. Each year we set aside this Sunday to reflect upon this title that we have given to Jesus. In Lectionary Cycle C, we read a portion of the passion from the Gospel of John, which is also part of the Gospel reading proclaimed each year on Good Friday.

In John's Gospel, Pilate is shown in a more favorable light than in the other Gospels. In today's reading, we hear one of two dialogues between Jesus and Pilate that are reported in John's Gospel. Pilate questions Jesus about the charges brought against him. Caiaphas and the high priests have charged Jesus with a political crime, one that would require a punishment of death. Pilate distances himself from the Jewish leaders who accuse Jesus; he is not a Jew, and he seems to want little to do with this Jewish affair.

In his responses to Pilate's questions, Jesus distinguishes His kingdom from the political powers of this world. King and kingdom may be appropriate terms for Jesus' mission and promise, but only by analogy. Jesus is king, but not the kind of king we imagine or expect. He was certainly not the kind of king Pilate feared He might be.

Jesus refers to a kingdom that does not belong to this world. This has been mentioned earlier in John's Gospel. Recall that in His prayer during the Last Supper discourse (see [John 17:6-18](#)), Jesus prayed for His Disciples who are in the world but do not belong to the world. Yet like Jesus, they are sent into the world for the world's salvation. In today's reading, we see Jesus identify the final proof that His kingdom is not of this world: If His Kingdom were of this world, then there would be people fighting to save Him. Again we hear echoes of John's theme—salvation is worked out through a cosmic battle. It is helpful to return to the first chapter of John's Gospel to understand the context for Jesus' words to Pilate. Jesus came into the world, but the world did not know Him. In John's language, the world prefers the darkness, and yet the light will not be overcome by the darkness.

Truth has been another important theme in John's Gospel. We see it emphasized in the conclusion of the dialogue between Jesus and Pilate. Those who know the truth will recognize Jesus as king and will know how to interpret this insight. Yet Jesus' kingship was hidden from many of his contemporaries. Only those chosen, those who have the eyes of faith, are able to see. As modern Disciples of Jesus, we also struggle at times to recognize Jesus as king. Today's Gospel invites us to see with eyes of faith that we might recognize that Jesus, through His crucifixion and death, is indeed king and Savior of all.

### November 21 Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

This feast is needed more than ever for all people and especially as the Christian stewards we claim to be, in the year 2021. It reminds us of three vital truths. **First**, even when it seems the world is spinning out of control, we need not fear because we have a King of kings who is very much in charge and Who is loving, merciful and just. **Second**, if Christ is king of all, then He is also king of me, personally. I am not 'lord' of my time, talents, and treasure. He is. **Third**, as His disciple, I am called to imitate my King. Christ's kingship is characterized by humble service, by emptying Himself for the good of others.

The Scriptures tell us He went about doing good and He says of Himself, "I came not to be served but to serve." How can I live in any other way than as a humble servant like my King? (*Stewardship Reflection*, Catholic Stewardship Consultants, Inc. 2018/11/09)

**CONTRIBUTIONS WEEK LAST WEEK:** Loose - \$112.00; Adults - \$2586.47; Children - \$3.00; Monthly - \$545.02; Candles - \$164.06; St. Vincent DePaul - \$5.00; Thanksgiving - \$150.00; Donation - \$45.00; Catholic Charities - \$25.00; All Souls - \$30.02; All Saints - \$65.02; Missalettes - \$78.00; Funeral - \$150.00 - Total Collection - \$3958.59.

**SANCTUARY CANDLE FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER** - +Dennis Mochan and +Craig Britton :  
By: Family

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND**

James Edward Adams, Galynn Brady, Sister Carol Jean Czynnik, Verne Esposito, Alicia Junghans, Tyler McKinley, Rick McKinley, Paulette Mirilovich, Rowen Ream, Alexandra Rice, Carly Rice, Doug Rice, Rose Rice, James Schuster, Betty Scott, Gary Singel, Betty Spisak, Joanna Stone, Carol Sobecky, Leona Sutt, Agnes Swarney, Paulette Torchia, 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 Guarno**, USCG; **Master at Arms 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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, 193<sup>rd</sup> Special Operations Wing; **Lt. Col Steven Thomas**, USAF, deploying to the Middle East; **2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Colin Harrington**, US Army, Bethesda, MD; **2<sup>nd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Class, Gage Pollino**, US Navy; **Pvt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Daylee Ragno**, US Army, E-3 Paratrooper, Fort Bragg, NC..

*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 uplift in prayer our Confirmation Candidates (Alana Murphy, Connor and Christian Haberkorn, and Brandon Wincer) who officially were enrolled in the Confirmation Program today. They are scheduled to be confirmed on Thursday, May 5, 2022.