

**May 15, 2022**  
**Fifth Sunday of Easter**  
**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*  
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**Email– [sfassisich@atlanticbbn.net](mailto:sfassisich@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

**MASS SCHEDULE – Monday – 9:00AM, Tuesday – 6:15PM, Wednesday – Saturday – 9:00AM**  
**Saturday – 4:00PM, Sunday – 7:30AM & 9:30AM**

*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 – 6:30PM in the Activity Center

**FIRST FRIDAY** – First Friday Adoration on June 3, will be from 9:00AM – 3:00PM followed by Divine Mercy Chaplet, Benediction and Mass. Please sign up in the Main Vestibule for Adoration. For the safety and security of the Blessed Sacrament, two adorers must be present each half hour segment.

**THANK YOU FROM MEN’S CLUB** – Thank you to Fran, Cindy, Alice, Jeanette and Barb for helping to decorate for the Mother’s Day event held!

**THANK YOU** – To the Men’s Club for the donation for the Mother’s Day event held at the Activity Center!

**100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE** – We will be holding a meeting for an update on Monday, May 16 at 6:00 in Church Office.

**MEMORIAL DAY GOB SALE** – On Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup> from 9AM – 12 NOON at St. Francis Activity Hall on Barron Ave.

**CHURCH ROSTER UPDATE** – Our Church Roster needs to be updated! If you have had an address or phone number change, please put your new info in the collection basket or contact the Parish Office with those changes by May 31<sup>st</sup> at (814)539-1632.

**GOB ICING** - will be made on Tuesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> from 7:00AM-11AM. Gobs will be filled on Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup> from 8:00AM until 10:00AM and from 6:00PM until 8:00PM. All help is welcome and appreciated.

**SIGHT AND SOUND** – The show for Sight and Sound is “David”. The date we will be going is August 18<sup>th</sup>. For more info please contact Fran King at (814)536-3667.

**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, with a Mass celebrated by Bishop Mark at 12 Noon, followed by an anniversary dinner. More info coming soon.

**CONTRIBUTIONS LAST WEEK:** Loose - \$213.00; Adults - \$1,706.33; Monthly - \$210.02; Candles – \$155.25; St. Vincent DePaul - \$10.00; Easter - \$10.00; Mother’s Day - \$409.00; Cemetery - \$36.00; Holy Thursday - \$5.00; Good Friday - \$5.00 - Total Collection - \$2759.60.

**SANCTUARY CANDLE** — Will burn May 15<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> for Nichole LaBuda Lenhart — From: Aunt Georgetta LaBuda

**MASS FOR WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS TO BE TELEVISED** – Remember your loved ones on **Sunday, May 29, 2022 with a televised Mass Celebrated by Bishop Mark Bartchak at 11:00 am on WATM ABC 23 and will rebroadcast that night at 9:00PM on the Atlantic Broadband channel 9.** All spouses will be acknowledged and remembered at Mass. All persons who have lost a spouse through death throughout the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese are invited to register by contacting the Family Life Office 814-317-2643 or email [familylife@dioceseaj.org](mailto:familylife@dioceseaj.org). When registering, please give your **name, address, phone number and the name of your spouse who has passed away.** The last day to register is **Tuesday, May 24, 2022.** The event is sponsored by the Diocesan Family Life Office and the Catholic Ministries Drive.

## **Background on the Gospel Reading**

Today's Gospel again comes from the Gospel of John. Like last week, today we hear words spoken by Jesus before His Death and Resurrection. Jesus is teaching at the Last Supper.

John's Gospel does not include an institution of the Eucharist narrative; instead, Jesus washes His Disciples' feet. Immediately after, Jesus predicts His Betrayal by Judas. Today's Gospel follows that prediction. It can be read as a continuing explanation of Jesus' act of washing His Disciples' feet. It begins with the announcement that this is the moment when the Son of Man will be glorified. This theme continues throughout John's Passion account. Jesus will be glorified in His Death on the Cross and in His Resurrection, and the Disciples will glorify Jesus in the love they show.

John's Gospel does not present a sentimental view of love. This is a type of love that is shown in service and sacrifice. It is difficult to choose to love when faced with hatred and anger. Jesus tells the disciples that all will know that they are His disciples because of the love they show for one another. This description of the early Christian community will be repeated in the Acts of the Apostles: "See how they love one another." Christian love is the hallmark of Christianity. We see it lived in the witness of the martyrs. We see it in the example of the lives of the Saints. We see it in the holy women and men who live and love daily, making small and large sacrifices for others.

## **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter (May 15)**

Today's readings contain inspiring but challenging messages for us Christian Stewards. What a succinct description of a stewardship way of life. It sounds so simple, but does not mean easy. How exactly is Jesus calling us to love? As He, Himself, loved. That is a tall order. Living a life of service and self-sacrifice is not easy because it requires us to continuously fight against our selfish inclinations. And in the midst of living these inevitable challenging moments this way of life entails, we can be assured that the Lord Who loves us so much that He died for us established the Eucharist to be our strength and nourishment.

As we face the hardships that come with living as Christian stewards, we can rejoice in the wonder of the Resurrection this Easter Season. "This is how you will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35). How can you respond to Jesus this week by giving of your time, talent, and treasure? (*Stewardship Reflection*, Catholic Stewardship Consultants, Inc. 2022/04/18)

### **MY DAILY PRAYER**

Dear God, as I begin this day let me turn my thoughts to You, And ask Your help in guiding me in everything I say and do. Give me the patience that I need to keep my peace of mind, and with life's cares, I hope, Dear God, Some happiness to find. Let me live but for today, not worrying what's ahead, For I have trust that You will see I get my "Daily Bread". Give me the courage to face life's trials and not from troubles run, Let me keep this though in mind, "Thy Will", not "Mine", be done. And if some wish I do not get through I have prayed to Thee, Help me to believe and understand, You know what's best for me. I've failed You many times, I know, But when tonight I rest, I hope that I can kneel and say, "Dear God, I've tried my best."

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

James Edward Adams, Kathy Barczak, Galynn Brady, Sister Carol Jean Czyrnik, 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, Paulette Torchia, Joe Torchia, David Watson, 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 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; **Lt. Col. Melinda Rovon Corallo**, Travis Air Force Base, California; **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;; **Capt. 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; **SPC Morgan Rullo**, ARNG Camp Buehring, Kuwait.

*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.

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**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.

