

May 29, 2022
Seventh 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
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 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 – 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.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – Registration forms are in the Main Vestibule for Vacation Bible School for kids ages 4 – 12. **Registration forms need to be turned in NO LATER THAN JUNE 30th.** If there are any High School kids that need service hours and would like to help out, please contact the Parish Rectory at (814)539-1632.

THANK YOU – to all who helped in any way with the Gob making last week. May God Bless you for your continued support.

FISH FRY: Profit for the Lenten Fish Fries: \$9,352.72. THANK YOU who all contributed in any way with the success of the Fish Fries.

100th ANNIVERSARY “FOR YOUR INFORMATION” – Parishioners planning to attend the 100th Anniversary Dinner on Sunday, October 16, 2022, can find their self-addressed envelope with a reservation form **in alphabetical order** in the main vestibule. **A \$10 deposit for each attending family member is required, which will be refunded at the dinner.** Information for anyone interested in being a patron in the 100th Anniversary Commemorative Book is available. A poster showing examples of the types of available advertisement, along with pricing, is also on display in the Church vestibule. Please return the completed form, along with a check payable to St Francis of Assisi Church As Soon As Possible; **deadline to submit an advertisement is JUNE 15, 2022.**

PICTURE DIRECTORY NEWS - Anyone who did not come to the church hall for the photography sessions and who wishes to submit a photograph for the church picture directory, is asked to submit a photo plus a payment of \$15.00 (cash or check made out to St. Francis Church) to the church office. Deadline to submit is May 31, 2022.

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 31st at (814)539-1632. Phone numbers will NOT be published in the directory. If you wish to not have any of your info published at all, please call the Parish Office Monday - Thursday between 8AM – 3PM at (814)539-1632.

CONTRIBUTIONS LAST WEEK: Loose - \$94.00; Adults - \$1,694.87; Monthly - \$120.00; Candles – \$142.00; St. Vincent DePaul - \$346.00; Easter - \$10.00; Holy Thursday - \$5.00; Good Friday - \$5.00; Cemetery - \$10.00; Ascension - \$15.00; Donation - \$130.00 - Total Collection - \$2,571.87.

SANCTUARY CANDLE – Will burn from May 29 – June 11 for Kathy Barczak — From: Your Friends at St. Francis of Assisi Church

BLESSED MOTHER CANDLE – Will burn from May 29 – June 11 for Pat Deskevich — From: Fran

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today is our Liturgical Celebration of the Ascension of the Lord, when Jesus was taken to Heaven on the 40th day after Easter. In Cycle C, our Gospel is taken from the conclusion of the Gospel of Luke.

There are similarities in the reports of Jesus' Ascension found in the Synoptic Gospels—Mark, Matthew, and Luke. In each account, Jesus assigns His Disciples the task of proclaiming the Gospel to the entire world. There are also notable distinctions. In the Gospels of Mark and Matthew, the Disciples are sent by Jesus to baptize as well as to preach. In Luke's Gospel, however, this commission to baptize is absent. Instead, Jesus directs the Disciples to return to Jerusalem to await the fulfillment of His promise to send them the Holy Spirit. Curiously, only Mark and Luke actually report Jesus' Ascension into Heaven. Matthew's Gospel concludes with Jesus' promise to remain with His Disciples forever. Only the Gospel of Mark notes that Jesus Ascended to sit at the right hand of God. In noting this, Mark teaches that Jesus' Ascension affirms the glory Jesus received from God after His Death and Resurrection.

Those who believe in Jesus will be empowered to do what Jesus Himself has done. Already in Mark's Gospel, during His ministry, Jesus sent His Disciples out to preach, to heal, and to drive out unclean spirits. Now, they are sent again to do these things and more. From His place with God in Heaven, Jesus helped His Disciples, and He continues to help us as we try to live as His Followers.

The Ascension of the Lord (May 26)

On the Feast of the Ascension, we celebrate Christ's triumphant return to the Father after perfectly accomplishing His mission on earth. We can also view this Feast as a celebration of the "launch day" of our commissioning as Christ's Disciples. Embracing a stewardship way of life with its emphasis on the use of time, talent, and treasure, helps us to live in such a way that our lives speak as a witness of the Good News of the Gospel. While we take the necessary time to reflect and renew our commitments in these three areas as a parish, it is of great benefit to take some time individually throughout the year to take stock of the commitments we have made within our strengths, and in areas that are in need of improvement and growth. On this Feast of "our launch day," take some time to celebrate your victories as Christ's Disciples and renew your commitment to remain faithful to Him and the unique mission He has entrusted to you! (*Stewardship Reflection*, Catholic Stewardship Consultants, Inc. 2022/05/03)

MEMORIAL DAY PRAYER

“Dear Lord Jesus and Mary, Mother of God,
Hold all these brave souls in the palm of your hand, comfort them and their families.
Send angels of protection, love, and comfort to all the servicemen and women still at war,
bring them home safely and comfort their families.”

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 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; **Lt. Col. Melinda Rovon Corallo**, Travis Air Force Base, California; **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;; **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 2nd Class, Gage Pollino**, US Navy; **Pvt. 1st 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.

Did you know that it is a custom in Johnstown to wear something RED on Fridays to honor our military?

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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.