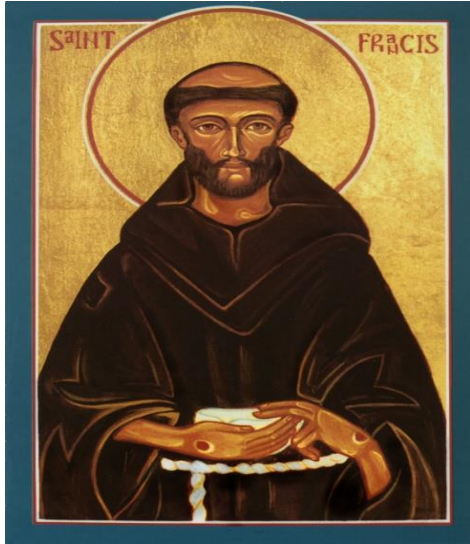


**July 10, 2022**  
**15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**THE FAITH COMMUNITY OF**  
**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI**

*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– [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

**BASKETS NEEDED FOR CHURCH PICNIC** – Baskets are needed to chance off at 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 Cecilia (814)534-0602. Church Picnic will be on **July 31<sup>st</sup> beginning with Mass at 12 Noon and ending at 6PM.** Deadline to sign-up is July 17<sup>th</sup>. Sign-up sheet is in the Main Vestibule. Bring your favorite desert!

**CITY HOMEOWNER ASSISTANCE** - The City of Johnstown is offering funding that is available from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) that will provide City homeowners up to a Maximum of \$10,000.00 dollars to make repairs to the **exterior** of their homes. The Home Weatherization Program offer exists to help homeowners weatherize their residences, funds are available to cover up to \$10,000 of weatherization repairs. **The home must be located within the City of Johnstown and be his or her primary residence.** The Johnstown Redevelopment Authority is the Program Manager for the City of Johnstown American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Home Rehabilitation Program, JRA agrees to administer the City ARPA Home Rehabilitation Program. For further information please contact the Johnstown Redevelopment Authority at 814 535-6564.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES** – are scheduled to begin on Sunday, September 18 from 10:45AM until 12Noon IN PERSON at Resurrection Parish Center. Registration forms can be found in the Main Vestibule of the Church. Catholic School Sacrament Prep form is Green, Public School Students form is Blue, Catholic School 1<sup>st</sup> Communion and Confirmation Registration form is Purple. Please register your child/children as soon as possible so that books and other materials can be ordered. Sacramental preparation and celebration of the Sacraments of Penance/Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation are parish based. Parish based Sacramental preparation is in addition to education in either the Catholic School or home schooling. This means at Students enrolled in Catholic Elementary Middle School or High School are required to attend only Sacrament Preparation Classes with Public School Students. These dates will be announced soon.

**CONTRIBUTIONS LAST WEEK:** Loose - \$101.00; Adults - \$2,057.75; Monthly - \$847.00; Candles – \$77.00; St. Vincent DePaul - \$5.00; Peter's Pence - \$5.00; Hall Rental - \$62.00; Catholic University - \$5.00; Retired Priest - \$10.00; Assumption - \$5.00; Ascension - \$5.00; Donation - \$30.00 - Total Collection - \$3,209.75

**SPAGHETTI DRIVE-BY** – The Church of the Transfiguration, 201 Third St, Conemaugh, Spaghetti Drive-By on Sunday, July 31, 2022 from 10am - 1:30pm – Cost: \$8.00. Includes Spaghetti & meatballs, salad, roll and dessert.

**RESURRECTION GOLF OUTING** – Saturday, August 20, 2022 at Oakbrook Golf Course. 12:30PM Shotgun start. Cost is \$60.00 per person. Deadline to register is August 10<sup>th</sup>. Registration Forms are in the Main Vestibule of the Church.

**THE SANCTUARY CANDLE** – Will burn July 3<sup>rd</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> - For: Kathy Barczak – From – All Your Friends at St. Francis of Assisi

## Background on the Gospel Reading

As Jesus continues His Journey to Jerusalem, He is confronted by a scholar of the law who wants to test Him. In the Gospels of Mark and Matthew, Jesus is asked about the greatest commandment. Here, in Luke's Gospel, the lawyer asks what we must do to inherit eternal life. In the other two Gospels, Jesus answers the question by quoting [Deuteronomy 6:5](#), on loving God with all your heart, and [Leviticus 19:18](#), on loving your neighbor. Here Jesus asks the expert to answer this question, "What is written in the law?" The man is caught and responds with Deuteronomy 6:5. This verse is one of the most important prayers in Judaism, and it was said twice a day in Jesus' time. Love of God and love of neighbor are what is required for eternal life. Jesus' response is simple, "Do this and you will live."

Having been shown up by Jesus, the lawyer tries another question: Who is my neighbor whom I must love like Myself? In the society of Jesus' time, with its distinctions between Jews and Gentiles, men and women, clean and unclean, this was a trick question. Jesus responds with one of the most beautiful of all the parables, the Good Samaritan. It is found only in Luke's Gospel.

The road from Jerusalem to Jericho descends 3,300 feet in just 17 miles. Its narrow passes and rocky terrain made it an easy place for bandits to wait for travelers. The traveler in this parable is identified only as "a certain man." Luke uses this phrase in many of his parables so that the audience, Jew or Gentile, could identify with the man. After the attack, the man is left for dead, naked and bleeding on the side of the road. A priest comes along, but rather than helping, as one might expect, he moves to the other side of the road. Another religious person comes along, a Levite who assists in the Temple. His reaction is the same as the priest's. Both of them choose to not even find out if the man is alive. A third person comes along. The listeners would probably expect Him to be an Israelite. This would make the parable a criticism of the religious leadership. Instead he is a Samaritan, an Israelite's most hated neighbor. Samaritans were descendants of Jews from the northern part of the country, who had intermarried with Gentiles and did not worship in Jerusalem. The Samaritan not only goes over to the injured man but cleans his wounds, puts him on his own animal, takes him to an inn to recover, and promises to pay all his expenses. The hated enemy is the compassionate neighbor in this parable.

Jesus has demolished all boundary expectations. It is not social definitions such as class, religion, gender, or ethnicity that determines who is our neighbor. A neighbor is a person who acts with compassion toward another. The point becomes not who deserves to be loved as I love myself, but that I become a person who treats everyone with compassion.

When Jesus asks the lawyer who was the neighbor in the story, the lawyer can't bring himself to say it was the Samaritan. All he says is that it was "the one who treated him with mercy." Jesus' response was similar to that of the first discussion: "Go and do likewise." The lawyer, and we, know what is right. The key is to do it.

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

James Edward Adams, Kathy Barczak, 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, Paulette Torchia, Joe Torchia, David Watson, Sheila Weppner, Mark Wojno.

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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 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 1/2 hour or hour have two adorers to adore and protect the Blessed Sacrament. **(CANCELLED FOR JULY & AUGUST)**