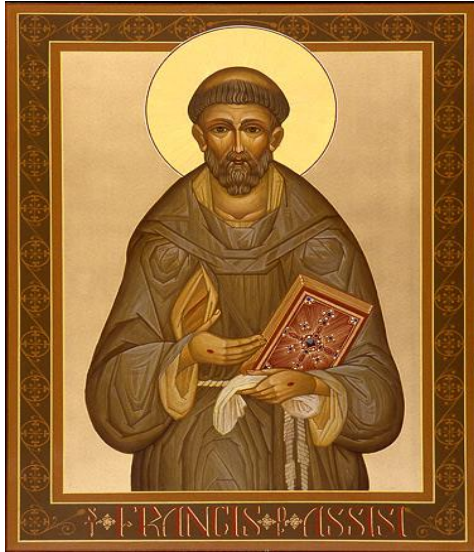


July 31, 2022
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
THE FAITH COMMUNITY OF
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

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@atanticbbn.net
Oremus Ministry (Prayer Chain) – 814-539-1632
Web Site: <http://www.stfrancisofassisijtown.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

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS – The Family and Friends of +**Mary Rajter**, who was laid to rest last week. Welcoming God receive from our hands the Loved Ones we return to You.

PARISH OFFICE – Will be open **Monday – Thursday** this week from **9:00AM – 12 Noon**.

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 1st 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 all 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.

NEEDED: ALTAR SERVERS, LECTORS, & EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION – If you are interested in participating in one or more of these Ministries, Please contact the Parish Office (814)539-1632.

SAVE YOUR SOLES FOR OTHER SOULS – We will be collecting any new or gently worn shoes to help raise money for our Parish. The Campaign will run from Sept 6th – Nov 6th. Start gathering up your shoes to donate!

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE – A dynamic and inspiring Catholic speaker will headline the upcoming Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown women's conference "Women Find Strength in Christ" on September 10, 2022, at Holy Name Parish in Ebensburg. Kelly Walquist, founder of WINE: Women in the New Evangelization, will be the keynote speaker. Also presenting will be Deanne Miller and Colleen Scariano, co-founders of SoulCore, a movement that nurtures a body and soul through prayer and core strengthening exercises. The conference includes Eucharistic Adoration, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and lunch. The cost is only \$10 per person. Please register online at dioceseaj.org or pick up a hard copy registration form at any parish and mail the form and a check to the diocese. The deadline for reservations is August 31.

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.

CONTRIBUTIONS LAST WEEK: Loose – \$94.00; Adults – \$1,751.25; Monthly – \$20.00; Candles – \$90.00; Assumption – \$5.00; Donation – \$30.00 – Total Collection - \$1,990.25

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE – Will burn July 31st – August 13th for Kathy Barczak — From: All Your Friends at St. Francis.

Background on the Gospel Reading

In Chapter 12 of Luke's Gospel, Jesus instructs His Disciples and the crowd on how to be ready for the coming judgment. A crowd of many thousands has gathered to hear Jesus. At first He speaks only to the Disciples, reminding them that it is not persecution they should fear but the judgment that is coming for all who do not acknowledge the Son of Man. Suddenly a man in the crowd shouts out to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." He seems to have grown tired of Jesus speaking only to the Disciples. Jesus offers the man no help. Instead He uses the question to teach what, in light of the coming judgment, life really consisted of.

Jesus tells the crowd a parable. A rich man's lands have yielded more crops than expected. His response is not to consider how he might share all the extra food with others but to wonder how he can possibly store it all. He has what he thinks is a brilliant idea: to tear down his present barns and build larger ones. Then he will have many things stored up for years of eating, drinking, and making merry.

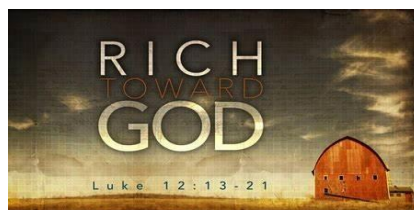
"You fool" is God's response to this man because that very night his life will be taken away. To whom will everything belong then, God asks. The rich man's world is small, just him and his possessions, and now he learns that he is to lose his life. What good are his possessions now? Jesus states the moral of the story. This is how it will be for everyone who stores up treasure for himself or herself but is not rich in what matters to God.

Centuries later St. Gregory the Great taught that when we care for the needs of the poor, we are giving them what is theirs, not ours. We are not just performing works of mercy; we are paying a debt of justice. Life does not consist in possessions but in sharing what we possess with others. The goods of the earth have been given to everyone.

July 31 – Eighteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Saint Paul reminds us how to make decisions so that we can make the best use of the gifts we have been given, "think of what is above, not of what is on earth." Too many people in our materialistic world set priorities that are focused on wealth, status and power. How foolish and naive! Jesus makes it clear that life is not about "stuff," "Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist of possessions."

Don't be ashamed of living differently from the people around you. Be confident as you set priorities based on what is above. Christian stewards are wise in God's eyes. You will be rich in what matters most. What matters most to you? (*Stewardship Reflection*, Catholic Stewardship Consultants, Inc. 2019/8/02)



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 Sobacky, 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 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; **Fr. William Appel**, Navy Chaplain, U.S. Coast Guard Academy.

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 – is held weekly on various days and various times across from the Planned Parenthood on Franklin Street in Johnstown. Please call Gale Bala for information (814)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. **(CANCELLED FOR JULY & AUGUST)**