

September 25, 2022
26th 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 – 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

UPCOMING BUS TRIP – American Music Theatre – Christmas Show on November 10th. Please call Fran for more info at (814)536-3667.

GABRIEL PROJECT – In order to continue the Gabriel Project Pro Life Ministry here at St. Francis, volunteers are being recruited for day to day jobs such as buying baby items, organizing inventory, getting set-ups ready, or distributing items to clients. If there is interest, we can have an organizational/informational meeting in the near future. Please contact Gale for more information at (814)539-0155.

THANK YOU FROM CINDY – To all who helped to make icing and the filling of Gobs. Your help is greatly appreciated!!

PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY RALLY – You are invited to join in a Public Square Rosary Rally on Saturday, October 15, 2022 at 12:00 Noon at St. Francis of Assisi. This Public Square Rosary, sponsored by *America Needs Fatima*, will be one of over 20,000 rallies that will take place all across the United States on that day. Please join us in offering reparation for the sins and offenses committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary and to fervently pray for the conversion of the United States. Please bring a chair as the event could take up to an hour. (Jeannette DiFlauro)

SAVE YOUR SOLES FOR OTHER SOULS – Keep up the good work, we had a fantastic week! Please continue to collect from family, friends and coworkers for this great cause. We are unable to accept worn out soles, rips and holes in shoes. Thank you to all who have already contributed, Every pair of shoes counts! **Next cleaning date will be Monday and Tuesday, September 26th and 27th at 9:00am. All volunteers are appreciated!**

ANNUAL MARIAN CELEBRATION MASS & ROSARY – Sunday October 2nd at 3:00PM. The theme is – “Mary and the Holy Eucharist” – Principal Celebrant, Bishop Mark Bartchak at St. Benedict Church – 2310 Bedford Street, Johnstown, PA 15904.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, SEMINARIAN ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE, COLUMBUS DAY CELEBRATION – The Annual Event will be held at St. Michael Basilica in Loretto, PA on October 9, 2022. Bishop Mark Bartchak will celebrate Mass at 2:00PM. The main speaker will be Rev. Jason Charron, Pastor of Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church, Carnegie, PA. He will speak about his involvement in assisting the safe passage of children from Ukraine to Poland. Immediately following Mass, a dinner will be held in St. Michael Parish Social Center. Knights along with their family members, friends and all parishioners are invited to this social event. The cost of the dinner is \$15.00 for adults and \$7.50 for children 12 years old and younger. **Reservations must be made in advance. No money transactions will be made at the door the evening of the banquet.** Those wishing to attend, please submit your name along with a check to: William Stasko, CPA, 8 Entrance Drive, Johnstown, PA 15906. **The deadline for reservations is October, 1, 2022.**

Background on the Gospel Reading

A major theme in the Gospel of Luke is the importance of the care of the poor in the life of Discipleship. In the parable found in today's Gospel, Jesus contrasts the life of a rich man and the poor man, Lazarus, who lives in the shadow of the rich man and his wealth. Both die. Lazarus finds himself in heaven; the rich man in the netherworld. The rich man asks for assistance from Lazarus in his torment. But Abraham reminds the rich man of the good things he had in his life and describes the current situation as a reversal of fortunes. The rich man then asks that Lazarus be sent to warn his family, but this is denied with the reminder that Moses and the prophets have warned of judgment for those who neglect the care of the poor.

In the context of Luke's Gospel, this parable, delivered in the presence of a crowd of listeners, is part of Jesus' response to some Pharisees. These Pharisees are described in Luke's Gospel as "loving money." (Note: The Pharisees were followers of a sect of Judaism active before, during, and after Jesus' lifetime. They taught an oral interpretation of the Law of Moses as the basis for popular Jewish piety. They put less emphasis on Temple worship and more on applying the law to everyday life. Though they are often portrayed negatively in the Gospels, they shared many of Jesus' and the early Church's concerns about the law.) Jesus observed that the actions of some Pharisees betrayed misplaced priorities: they spoke one way, but acted in another. The story of the rich man and Lazarus demonstrates the importance of the care of the poor and is a reminder to those who would follow Jesus of the unimportance of wealth in the eyes of God.

(September 25) Twenty-sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Our culture makes it easy to be like the rich man. It is easy to "walk by" those asking for a handout. On our electronic devices, it is easy to watch the basest human tendencies play out as entertainment. The tendency towards complacency is perhaps an even greater danger in this modern age with so many conveniences. Some of us don't have to look at or remain aware, that there are families and elderly in need of basic food items as we now get our groceries delivered right to our doors or placed in our cars in a parking lot!

The Lord's message could not be any clearer, we must get off the couch and put our powers (the many gifts He has given us) to work! We are called to live as stewards in our homes, our neighborhoods, and our community. Our gifts are needed by those around us. (*Stewardship Reflections* by Catholic Stewardship Consultants, 9/2019)

CONTRIBUTIONS LAST WEEK: Loose – \$125.00; Adults – \$2,161.10; Monthly – \$40.00; Candles – \$98.00; St. Vincent DePaul – \$15.00; Catholic University – \$30.00; Retired Priest Medical – \$15.00; Funeral – \$150.00; Donation – \$248.25 Online Giving - \$286.00– Total Collection - \$3,168.35.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

James Edward Adams, Kathy Barczak, Galyann Brady, Sister Carol Jean Czyrnik, Verne Esposito, Alicia Junghans, Tyler McKinley, Rick McKinley, Rowen Ream, Alexandra Rice, Carly Rice, Doug Rice, Rose Rice, James Schuster, Betty Scott, Gary Singel, Betty Spisak, Joanna Stone, Carol Sobecky, Leona Sutt, 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, Fort Leavenworth, KS.; 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 Hood; 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).

Eucharistic



Adoration

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.