

November 13, 2022
33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

100th Anniversary THE FAITH COMMUNITY OF 1922 - 2022
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@atanticbnn.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

CONFIRMATION PREP CLASSES – For grades 9, 10 & 11 are **THIS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13th in the Church Rectory**. 9th Grade class from 4:00PM – 5:45PM; 10th Grade class from 6:00PM – 7:45PM and 11th Grade class from 6:00PM – 8:00PM.

REQUIRED 10th GRADE CONFIRMATION RETREAT – The 10th Grade Parables Retreat will be held on Saturday November 19, 2022 from 1:30-4:30PM in the John Paul II Building at St. Benedict Parish in Johnstown. Any Confirmation Candidate in the 10th Grade that intends to continue to participate in the Confirmation Prep Program for the purpose of being Confirmed, **MUST ATTEND! ONE PARENT IS REQUIRED TO ATTEND THIS RETREAT WITH THEIR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE!**

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY – We will be holding our Annual Children's Christmas Party on December 11th at the Activity Building from 1-3PM. Children up to age 12 are welcome to join. Sign-up sheet is in the Vestibule. Last day for sign-ups is November 21st.

GOB ICING – Will be made on Tuesday, November 15th from 7:00 AM – 11:00 AM. Please consider helping. Gob packing Wednesday, November 16th from – 10:00AM and 6:00 – 8:00PM. All help will be greatly appreciated!!



8:00

OUR ANNUAL JOE BARTKO MEMORIAL FOOD DRIVE – Non-perishable food and household items collection for the Joe Bartko Memorial, St. Vincent De Paul Food Kitchen is beginning. Parishioners are asked to share their bounty from God with those less fortunate. Monetary donations will also be accepted. Donations should be non-perishable and NO glass containers. Suggested items include: canned vegetables, pasta, cereal, tuna, soup, stuffing mix, cake mix, salt, pepper, paper products (paper towels, toilet paper, napkins, etc.). Please use the bag provided in the vestibule for your donations. **Collection will end Sunday, November 20th.**

SAVE YOUR SOLES FOR OTHER SOULS – We have reached over **4,500 pairs of shoes**. I appreciate all the help that has stepped up with this Campaign with the cleaning and bagging of shoes. **Our FINAL CLEANING DATES will be Monday and Tuesday November 14th and 15th at 9:00 AM. All volunteers are appreciated, Thank You! Carol Mangus.**

ATRIUM NON-PROFIT BODY WASH DONATIONS – The Atrium is an assisted living facility in the Johnstown Area on Main Street. They are looking for donations of about 25 bottles of body wash for their residents. Please place any contributions the basket in the Main Vestibule marked “Atrium Body Wash Donations”. Please have all donations dropped off by November 27th. Thank You! **All Donated bottles are GIFTS TO THE RESIDENTS!**

SANCTUARY CANDLE – Will burn from November 6th – November 19th – For: Kathy Barczak – From: All Your Friends at St. Francis of Assisi Church.

CONTRIBUTIONS LAST WEEK: Loose – \$415.00; Adults – \$2,323.25; Monthly – \$1,004.00; Candles – \$243.49; St. Vincent DePaul – \$75.00; Thanksgiving – \$40.00; All Saints – \$540.00; All Souls – 257.00; Cemetery – \$20.00; Catholic Charities – \$15.00; World Mission – \$25.00; Retired Priests – \$5.00; Donation – \$150.00; Online Giving – \$271.00 – Total Collection – \$5,383.74.

Background on the Gospel Reading

In the context of Luke, today's Gospel appears near the end of Jesus' Teaching in Jerusalem, just prior to the events that will lead to His Crucifixion. His warnings and predictions are ominous but can be read in many ways.

To those who first heard Luke's Gospel, those may have been words of encouragement. The destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem by the Romans was history (70 A.D.); Luke's Gospel, Catholic scholars propose, was written between 80 and 90 A.D. His audience was probably Gentile Christians. Luke here tries to interpret the fall of Jerusalem for them and to locate it in God's plans for humankind (salvation history). At the same time, Luke is suggesting to his audience that there will be a considerable elapse of time before Jesus' Final Coming. Luke's listeners have likely seen much upheaval and are anxious to know if these are the signs of Jesus' coming. Luke is urging greater patience.

In the second part of today's Gospel, Jesus warns that His Followers will face persecution for their beliefs. Luke presents persecution as an opportunity for the followers of Jesus for "It will lead to your giving testimony" (Luke 21:13). In persecution God's wisdom and power will be shown in the example of followers of Jesus. Perseverance in the face of persecution will lead to their salvation.

Here Jesus is assuring His Followers that God is present to all believers, even in times of trouble. Ultimately, Jesus will witness to this with His Own Death. As Disciples of Jesus, we try to follow His example, trusting in God's mercy and protection, even when we are facing difficulties.

(November 13) Thirty-third Sunday of Ordinary Time

As we approach the end of the Liturgical Year, we are offered a sobering reminder that now is the time to get our priorities in order, putting God first above all else as His faithful stewards. It also means refraining from certain actions and areas that are really none of our concern. St. Paul's letter to the Thessalonians reinforces the message that we must order our lives so that they are directed to the attainment of holiness and nothing else. When you have a plan in place all you need to do is stick with it.

If you are living a stewardship way of life, there is nothing to fear. But, we should expect to be tried and tested. Jesus urges us to persevere through trial and tribulation. How can we as stewards bring hope to those in the world that are in need of our Spirit? (*Stewardship Reflections* by *Catholic Stewardship Consultants*, 10/2019)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

James Edward Adams, Kathy Barczak, James Bauer, Galynn Brady, Sister Carol Jean Czynnik, 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; **Captain 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.

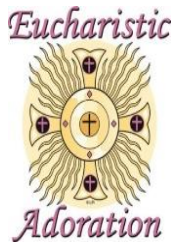
A PRAYER FOR OUR DEPLOYED MILITARY: Heavenly Father, inspire those who are overseas for the cause of peace. Send Your Son, Jesus Christ, as the Prince of Peace. Bless the men and women of our military who respond to the needs of peacekeeping. Keep them safe from harm. Let them be models of discipline 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).



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. Access to the Church is by ringing the doorbell at the Barron Avenue door for admittance – a matter of safety for the Blessed

Sacrament and adorers.