

April 9, 2023
Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

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@atanticbnn.net

Facebook – [St. Francis of Assisi](#)

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 Vigil– 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

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED – Parish Office will be closed on Monday, April 10th for Easter Monday.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS NEEDED – Due to the Precious Blood being brought back on Holy Thursday, We will need 1 Extra Eucharistic Minister for all April Weekend Masses. Please contact the Parish office if you are able to serve.

THANK YOU – To all who helped in any way with the decorating of the Church for the **Easter Season**, all who helped with the **Seder Meal** and **Paska Bread** and also to **Heather Kmetz** for the wonderful Easter Egg Hunt on Palm Sunday for the Children! May God Bless you for your efforts!

RICE BOWLS – Please return your Rice Bowls in the collection basket as soon as possible!

MEN'S CLUB – Will meet on Thursday, April 13th at 6:00PM at the Activity Center. New Members are always welcome!

PASCHAL CANDLE – This year the Paschal Candle was donated by Dave & Fran King in loving memory of her parents Sam and Rose Trapanotto.

GOB ICING – will be made on Tuesday, April 18th from 7:00AM-11AM. Gobs will be filled on Wednesday, April 19th from 8:00AM until 10:00AM and from 6:00PM until 8:00PM. All help is welcome and appreciated.

PUBLIC ROSARY – To Pray for The Healing of our Nation Thursday, April 13th 6:30 PM at ST. CLEMENT CHURCH, Upper Yoder and also on Saturday, April 15th at 12 NOON CENTRAL PARK, Downtown Johnstown.



DIOCESE SPONSORING MEN'S CONFERENCE – An inspiring Catholic priest and a nationally recognized author will headline the 2023 Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown men's conference **STRENGTH IN CHRIST – Be Not Afraid**. The conference is scheduled for Saturday, April 29 from 9:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. at Mount Aloysius College in Cresson. Speakers will be Father Joe Freedy, a priest of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, and Gary Zimak, a Catholic evangelist and author who is recognized as the leading speaker on the topic of overcoming anxiety. Bishop Mark will celebrate Mass at 4:00 p.m. The day will also include brief presentations from local parishioners to inspire men to put their faith into action at the parish level. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated, and lunch will be provided. Registration is required by April 14. The cost is \$20 per person; \$10 for college and high school students. Register online at dioceseaj.org or pick up a registration for in the Main Vestibule of our Church.

CONTRIBUTIONS LAST WEEK: Loose – \$174.00; Adults – \$2,471.75; Monthly – \$832.00; Easter Flowers – \$30.00; Holy Thursday – \$63.00; Good Friday – \$65.00; Easter – \$50.00; Catholic Relief – \$20.00; Catholic Home Mission – \$5.00; Men's Club Donation – \$150.00; Donation – \$30.00; Online Giving - \$216.00 – Total Collection - \$4,106.75.

Background on the Gospel Reading

All four Gospels have an account of the Death and Resurrection of Jesus. Although the accounts differ depending on the point each Evangelist wishes to make, two points of the Resurrection testimony are common to all four Gospels: 1) The Tomb of Jesus was found empty and 2) The Risen Christ appeared to certain persons. Matthew tells us that, as Mary Magdalene and the other Mary approached the Tomb, there was a great earthquake, and “an Angel of the Lord descended from Heaven, approached, rolled back the stone, and sat upon it.” The guards stationed at the Tomb were terrified and “became like dead men.” The Angel then assured the women that Jesus “has been Raised just as He said.” The women, “fearful yet overjoyed,” left the Tomb as the Angel instructed to tell the Disciples. On their way, Jesus met and greeted the women who “embraced His feet and did Him homage.” Jesus Himself then sends the women to “tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see Me.”

The mention of a great earthquake is peculiar to Matthew’s account of the Resurrection. Metaphorically, it indicates the coming of a new and final age brought about through the Life, Teaching, Ministry, and particularly through the Death and Resurrection of Jesus. Notable also is the fact that Jesus’ first appearance is to women, the women who came to minister to Him. Finally, not to be overlooked, is Jesus’ use of the word “brothers” to refer to His Disciples. It seems to be indicative of a new and different relationship that Jesus has with them. The Disciples are now entrusted with the message and mission of the Risen Jesus Christ.

April 9 — Easter Sunday: The Resurrection of the Lord

The Great Feast of Easter has begun. Let us rejoice Christian Stewards and be glad! Just as we embraced the discipline and fasting of Lent, let us fully embrace the joy and feasting that the next 50 days offer. Let’s make sure our lives are a testimony to this amazing grace for the whole Easter Season! St. Peter says that our Lord, “commissioned us to preach to the people and testify that He is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead.”

How do we do this? We do so through how we live our ordinary lives, through the intentional use of our time, talent, and treasure for the kingdom of God. Putting God and others ahead of ourselves in every aspect of our lives. Boldly and joyfully embracing a stewardship way of life is our most powerful testimony. We are the modern-day witnesses of an incredible miracle prompted by unfathomable love.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

James Edward Adams, Kathy Barczak, James Bauer, Galynn Brady, Sister Carol Jean Czynnik, Verne Esposito, James Golby, Alicia Junghans, Tyler McKinley, Rick McKinley, Rowen Ream, Alexandra Rice, Carly Rice, Doug Rice, Rose Rice, Betty Scott, Gary Singel, Betty Spisak, Joanna Stone, Carol Sobacky, 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, Major 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; Sgt. Adken Torchia, US Army, Fort Drum, NY;; Capt. Kenneth Yacynych, US Army, Fort Hood; Sgt. Elliott Mulvehill, USMC, Ginowan, Japan.; 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; Jonathan McClain, Warrant Officer, U.S. Army, Fort Drum, NY; Tech Sgt. Daniel Bracken; Senior Airman Jeremy Williams

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.
NO FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION IN APRIL!