

**June 18, 2023**  
**11<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 – [stfrancisich@atanticbbn.net](mailto:stfrancisich@atanticbbn.net)**

**Facebook – [St. Francis of Assisi](https://www.facebook.com/St.Francis.of.Assisi)**

**Oremus Ministry (Prayer Chain) – 814-539-1632**

**Web Site: <http://www.stfrancisofassisijsstown.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 –**

**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** 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

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

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED** – On **Monday, June 19<sup>th</sup>**.

**THANK YOU** – To all who donated to our 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection last weekend. We collected \$689 towards the defibrillators for the Church and Activity Center.

**CALLING ALL ALTAR SERVERS, EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS & LECTORS** – Any and all Altar Servers, Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors, we are in dire need on Saturdays at the 4:00 PM Mass. We also need Servers, Ministers and Lectors for Sunday Masses. If you are able and willing to serve, please contact the Parish Office.

**4<sup>th</sup> OF JULY GOB SALE** – We will be selling Gobs and Paska Bread on Saturday, July 1<sup>st</sup> from 9:00am – 12 Noon at the St. Francis Activity Center on Barron Ave. The cost of Gobs are \$2.00 each and Paska Bread is \$3.00 each.

**2023 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES** – Anyone that graduated from High School in 2023, please fill out an information form in the Main Vestibule and turn it into the Parish Office or drop it in the Collection Basket.

**SIGHT AND SOUND BUS TRIP** – The show for **Sight and Sound** is “**Moses**”. We will be attending the **3:00PM on Thursday, August 10<sup>th</sup>**. The bus will depart at 8:30AM from St. Francis Activity Center on Barron Avenue. Trip includes Roundtrip Motor Coach transportation, ticket to show and Buffet Lunch at “Bird in Hand” Restaurant. Cost is \$177.00 per person. Please contact Fran King at 814-536-3667. **Money and Reservations are due by 7/1/2023.**

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** – This year's VBS will explore the TWISTS and TURNS taken by our Bible heroes as they found their faith and hopefully inspire you to follow yours! VBS will run from **Tuesday, July 11 to Friday, July 14 from 9:00AM to 12 Noon at the St. Francis Activity Center**. Ages 4-12 are welcome. Older students are welcome to volunteer as helpers. Registration forms are in the Main Vestibule. Please turn in your completed Registration form in the weekend collection basket or to the Parish Office. . **LAST DAY TO TURN IN REGISTRATION FORMS IS SUNDAY, JUNE 25<sup>th</sup>**. Any questions, Please contact Sue Paonessa at 814-536-4024.

**CONTRIBUTIONS LAST WEEK:** Loose – \$268.25; Adults – \$2,140.25; Monthly – \$320.00; Candles – \$118.00; St. Vincent DePaul – \$12.00; Ascension – \$10.00; Father's Day – \$125.00; Funeral – \$150.00; Donation – \$30.00; Activity Center Rent – \$250.00; Online Giving - \$351.00 – Total Collection - \$3,774.50.

**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY**

## **Background on the Gospel Reading**

In today's Gospel, Jesus shares His Mission to proclaim the Kingdom of Heaven with His Disciples. The signs of the Kingdom's presence consist of the work that Jesus has already been doing: the sick are cured, lepers are cleansed, demons are driven out, and the dead are raised to life. The Disciples are sent to continue doing the work that Jesus has begun. This is a moment of transition in Matthew's Gospel. The focus has shifted from the Ministry of Jesus to the work of the community that He has inaugurated. More than any other Gospel, Matthew's Gospel elaborates on the work of the Church, which is to continue after Jesus' Death and Resurrection.

The Gospel reports that Jesus commissions Twelve Apostles. Many scholars believe that the Twelve Apostles symbolize the twelve tribes of Israel. It designates, therefore, continuity between Israel and the Church.

Matthew lists the names of the Twelve Apostles, as do Mark and Luke. Matthew also uses the word *Apostle* when referring to the Twelve. The word *Apostle* means "one who is sent." In this context, Matthew is calling attention to the mission that the Twelve Apostles are being given. They are sent by Jesus to proclaim the Kingdom of Heaven in word and deed.

As Jesus sent His Disciples to continue His Work and Mission, so too the Church is sent by Jesus. The Church is His continuing presence on earth. Every member of the Church is sent by Jesus to contribute to this Mission.

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Jesus makes clear the connection between discipleship with Him and service and leadership to those who are lost and in need. Whenever the stewards of the Church become more attentive to their own well-being than to their mission to be Christ's body in the world, they will become lost.

How are you planning to give your time, talent and treasure to the lost sheep in today's world? The Christian heart cannot be indifferent. Let your heart be moved to an act of stewardship or assistance for one of them. In your time and place, how can you respond to the call to be a laborer for the harvest? (2023, *At Home With the Word*, LTP)

### **Norms for the Distribution and Reception of Holy Communion under Both Kinds in the Diocese of United States of America**

The Christian faithful are to be instructed that the Catholic faith teaches that Christ, whole and divine, and the true Sacrament, is received even under only one species, and consequently that as far as the effects are concerned, those who receive under only one species are not deprived of any grace that is necessary for salvation. While Holy Communion under both kinds has a fuller sign, any of the faithful who wish to receive Holy Communion under the species of bread alone are to be granted their wish. C.f. **General Instruction of the Roman Missal**, 2011, Number 282.

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

James Edward Adams, Kathryn 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, Gary Singel, Betty Spisak, Joanna Stone, Carol Sobecky, Leona Sutt, Joe Torchia, Patricia Twardziak, David Watson, Sheila Weppner, Mark Wojno, Barbara Yesh.

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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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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, 193<sup>rd</sup> Special Operations Wing; **Lt. Col Steven Thomas**, USAF, deploying to the Middle East; **Captain Colin Harrington**, US Army, Bethesda, MD; **2<sup>nd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Class, Gage Pollino**, US Navy; **Pvt. 1<sup>st</sup> 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.*

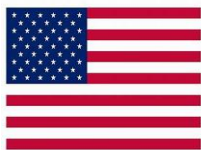
**A PRAYER FOR OUR DEPLOYED MILITARY:** Heavenly Father, inspire those who are overseas for the cause of peace. Send Your Son, Jesus Christ, as the Prince of Peace. Bless the men and women of our military who respond to the needs of peacekeeping. Keep them safe from harm. Let them be models of discipline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



**PRAYER FOR OUR NATION –** God our Father, Giver of Life, we entrust the United States of America to Your loving Care. You are the rock on which this nation was founded. You alone are the true source of our cherished rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Reclaim this land for Your Glory and dwell among Your People. Send us Your Spirit to touch the hearts of our nation’s leaders. Open their minds to the great worth of human life and the responsibilities that accompany human freedom. Remind Your people that true happiness is rooted in seeking and doing Your will. Through the intercession of Mary Immaculate, Patroness of our land, grant us the courage to reject the “culture of death.” Lead us into a new millennium of life. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.