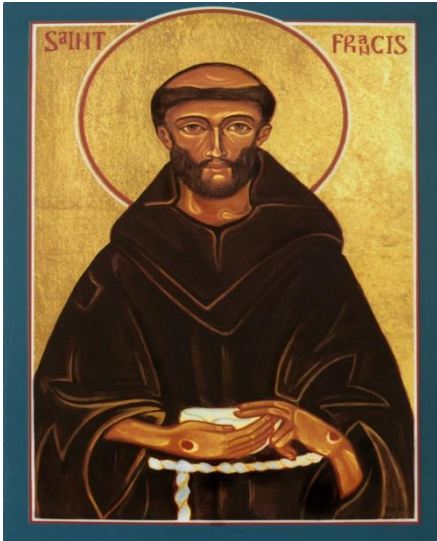


June 25, 2023
12th Sunday in Ordinary Time
THE FAITH COMMUNITY OF
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

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
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 –
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

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. (814) 539-1632.

4th OF JULY GOB SALE – We will be selling Gobs and Paska Bread on Saturday, July 1st 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.

SIGHT AND SOUND BUS TRIP – The show for **Sight and Sound** is “**Moses**”. We will be attending the **3:00PM on Thursday, August 10th**. 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 25th**. Any questions, Please contact Sue Paonessa at 814-536-4024.

CONTRIBUTIONS LAST WEEK: Loose – \$122.00; Adults – \$1,960.60; Monthly – \$381.00; Candles – \$162.00; Father's Day – \$297.00; Donation – \$40.00; Online Giving - \$291.00 – Total Collection - \$3,253.60.

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

June 25, 2023 Twelfth Sunday on Ordinary Time

The Second Vatican Council gave renewed consideration to Communion under both kinds. Aware of the doctrinal principles on the complete efficacy of Eucharistic Communion under the species of bread alone, the Council gave permission for Communion under both kinds. This is a clearer form of the Sacrament, offering a particular opportunity of deepening the understanding of the mystery in which the faithful take part. On the night before He died, the Lord took bread and said, “Eat,” then He took the chalice and said, “Drink.” The faithful are encouraged to partake of the Body and Blood of Christ under both species of bread and wine. C.f. **General Instruction of the Roman Missal**, 2011, Number 14.

Background on the Gospel Reading

We read today's Gospel in the context of last week's Gospel in which Jesus sent the Twelve Disciples to proclaim the Kingdom of Heaven. In between last week's reading and today's reading, Jesus has predicted that the Disciples will face difficulties in their mission. Many people will not receive them well, even within the land of Israel. Even family members will turn away from the Disciples because of the Disciples' commitment to Jesus and the Kingdom. Today's Gospel offers the Disciples consolation against this difficult truth.

This section of Matthew's Gospel should be read in the context of Matthew's intended audience, a Jewish-Christian community. The Gospel alludes to the dangers and persecutions that this community has most likely already faced and will continue to face. To reassure this community, Matthew recalls for them the encouraging words of Jesus that we read today.

In this Gospel passage, Jesus might be understood as putting suffering in perspective. The Disciples of Jesus are called upon to keep their focus on God. Those who can harm the body do not have ultimate power; God does. Still persecution and suffering can not be avoided or prevented. But Jesus reassures His Disciples that God knows and cares about what happens to His children.

We might not face the same type of persecution, but we do experience difficulties as we endeavor to live a Christian life. Sometimes we let the opinions of others prevent us from doing what we know to be right. We need the reminder that what God thinks about us is more important. We are reassured by the promise that God cares for us and protects us.

June 25, 2023 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Stewards must deal with and confront fear with trust. Like Jeremiah, we may have heard, "the whispering of many." This "whisper" for us may come from the culture that insists we must think of ourselves before serving God and sharing with others. Jeremiah remembered the truth, "The Lord is with me, like a mighty champion." St. Paul reminds us to put all our trust in the Lord. This is an ongoing challenge. Let's not waste any time with fear and put all our energy, time, talents and treasure into trusting this great God, and using all that we are and all that He has given us to bring Him glory.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

James Edward Adams, Kathryn Barczak, James Bauer, Galynn Brady, Sister Carol Jean Czrynik, 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 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 Donahy, 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.

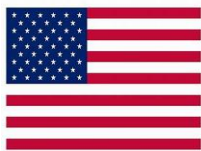
A PRAYER FOR OUR DEPLOYED MILITARY: Heavenly Father, inspire those who are overseas for the cause of peace. Send Your Son, Jesus Christ, as the Prince of Peace. Bless the men and women of our military who respond to the needs of peacekeeping. Keep them safe from harm. Let them be models of discipline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



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.