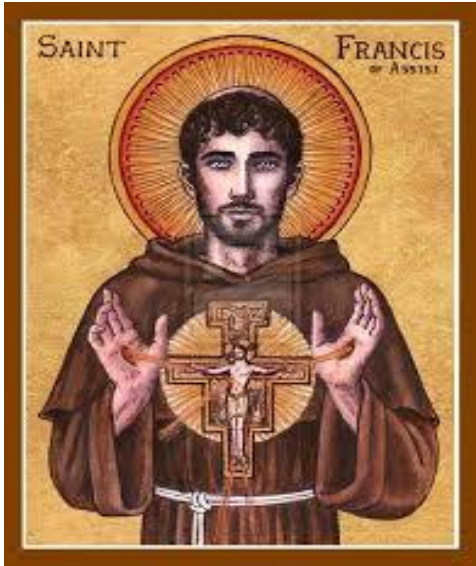


**June 30, 2024**  
**13<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**THE FAITH COMMUNITY OF**  
**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI**

*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 – [sfassisich@atlanticbbn.net](mailto:sfassisich@atlanticbbn.net)**  
**Facebook – [St. Francis of Assisi](#)**  
**Oremus Ministry (Prayer Chain) – 814-539-1632**  
**Web Site: <http://www.stfrancisofassisijohn.com>**  
**Parish Secretary – Megan Billow**  
**Office Hours – 9:00 AM to 2:45 PM – Mon. thru Thurs.**  
**Parish Council President – Gary Woodruff – 248-1776**  
**Finance Council President – Robert Bimeal**  
**Cemetery Council President – William Heim – 254- 2942**  
**Director of Religious Education – Deacon Bruce Becker**  
**Men's Club President – Philip Scott**  
**Rosary Society – Cecilia Neiderer**  
**Gabriel Project – 814-418-1813**

**MASS SCHEDULE – Monday – 9:00AM, Tuesday – 6:15PM, Wednesday – Saturday – 9:00AM**  
**Saturday Vigil– 4:00PM, Sunday – 7:30AM & 9:30AM**

**[Alternative to Abortion – Precious Life Inc. \(814\)269-4391; Domestic Violence Hotline – Victim Services \(814\)288-4961;](#)**  
**[Suicide Prevention Hotline – \(814\)535-8531 or 1-877-268-9463; St. Vincent DePaul \(814\)535-8521](#)**

**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

**Due to the crisis situation in the world, the Rosary is prayed ½ hour before Masses on the weekend and weekdays. Join us!**

**Please keep in your Prayers** – The Family and Friends of **+Robert Malysko**, who was laid to rest last week. Welcoming God receive from our hands the Loved Ones we return to You.

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED** – Parish Office will be closed on Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup> in Observance of Independence Day!

**BASKETS NEEDED FOR CHURCH PICNIC** – Baskets are needed for the Church Picnic to be held on **Sunday, July 28**. Requested value is at least \$20-25. Proceeds from chancing off the baskets help to defray the cost of the picnic. Baskets or individual items can be brought to the Church during office hours (9AM – 3PM) or brought to Mass and given to Gale Bala. Thanks in advance for any donations. Call Cel at 534-0602 or Gale at 279-2195 with questions.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** - St. Francis of Assisi, St. John Gualbert / St. Patrick  
**Tuesday, July 9 thru Friday, July 12 from 9:00 AM–12:00 Noon** (To be held at St. John Gualbert



Activity Center) Our local Catholic churches have combined to offer a fantastic week of VBS! This year at VBS, your child is invited to *Come to the Table!* Your child will learn that everyone is welcome at God's table. We'll hear how Jesus spent a lot of time eating and talking with unexpected people. When you eat with Jesus, anything can happen! Through prayer, art and active games, children are welcomed to taste

and share at God's table, where there is always enough! *Come to the Table* invites children to see that God loves and welcomes all people and challenges them to share that same love and hospitality in their everyday lives. Registration forms are in the Main Vestibule. **Online registration is available! Just scan the code to the right!** If there are any teenagers that would like to volunteer to help and get service hours, please contact Sue Paonessa at 814-536-4024.



**PUBLIC ROSARY** - Saturday, July 6th 12:00 Noon at Central Park, Downtown Johnstown, and also on Thursday, July 11th 6:30 PM at St. Clement Church, Upper Yoder Twp.

**ST. FRANCIS COFFEE ORDERS** – For the months of June, July and August, the only way to order coffee will be **ONLINE ONLY**. We will resume deliveries and turn-in orders in September.

**CALLING ALL ALTAR SERVERS, EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS & LECTORS** – Any and all Altar Servers, Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors, we are in need for ALL WEEKEND MASSES. If you are able and willing to serve, please contact the Parish Office. (814) 539-1632.

**CONTRIBUTIONS LAST WEEK:** Loose – \$146.00; Adults – \$2,046.30; Monthly – \$15.00; Candles – \$254.00; St. Vincent DePaul – \$25.00; Mother's Day – \$13.00; Father's Day – \$66.00; Donation – \$130.00; Funeral – \$150.00; Online Giving – \$233.50 – Total Collection – \$3,078.80.

## **Background on the Gospel Reading**

For today's Gospel, we continue to read from the Gospel of Mark. Last Sunday we heard about Jesus calming the storm, the first of Four Miracles that Jesus performs in the vicinity of the Sea of Galilee. Each of these Four Miracle stories offers us a glimpse at Jesus' power. This week we hear about the third and fourth Miracles, skipping the second Miracle, the healing of a man from Gerasene who was possessed by a demon.

Today's Gospel reports two stories of healing. One story tells us about a father's great love for his dying daughter. The other story tells us about a desperate woman who risks much as she seeks healing from Jesus. In each story, the request for healing is itself a courageous act of Faith, and yet very different circumstances are represented by the lives of each suffering person.

Jairus is described as a synagogue official, a man of considerable standing in the Jewish community. Distraught over his daughter's poor health, he approaches Jesus and asks Him to heal her. Although Mark doesn't provide many details, we can imagine that his daughter has been ill for some time and that her condition is deteriorating.

As Jesus leaves with Jairus, Mark describes a second person who seeks healing from Jesus, a woman with a hemorrhage. This woman secretly touches Jesus from behind and is immediately cured. In response, Jesus turns and asks who touched Him. Jesus' Disciples, always a little clueless in Mark's Gospel, help us envision the scene. The crowds are pushing in on Jesus, and yet He, knowing that power has gone out of Him, asks who touched Him. The woman could have remained anonymous, yet at Jesus' question she steps forward and acknowledges what she has done. Jesus responds by acknowledging her as a model of Faith and sends her away in peace.

At this point, we can imagine Jairus's impatience with Jesus; his daughter is dying, and Jesus hasn't helped him yet. As if to build a sense of urgency, messengers suddenly arrive and confirm Jairus's worst fear: his daughter has died. Jesus curiously ignores their message and reassures Jairus. When they arrive at Jairus's home, they find family and friends mourning the girl's death. Jesus enters the room of the dead girl, takes her by the hand, and instructs her to arise. Jairus's faith in Jesus has not been in vain; his daughter is restored to life.

The contrasts between Jairus and the woman with the hemorrhage are stark and revealing. One is a man, the other is a woman. One is a public official, an important person in the community. The other is a woman who has lost everything to find a cure to a condition that separated her from the community. One approaches Jesus publicly. The other approaches Jesus secretly. Yet in each case, faith leads them to seek out Jesus in their time of need.

The Gospel concludes with Jesus' instructions to remain silent about this miracle. This is typical of Mark's Gospel and is sometimes referred to as the Messianic secret. Repeatedly, those who witness Jesus' power and authority are instructed to not speak of what they have witnessed. These instructions appear impossible to obey, and it is difficult to understand the purpose of these instructions. But in each case, they seem to emphasize the fact that each individual, including the reader of Mark's Gospel, must, in the end, make his or her own judgment about Jesus' Identity. Each individual must make his or her own act of Faith in affirming Jesus as God's Son.

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

James Edward Adams, Kathryn Barczak, James Bauer, Sally Becker, Galynn Brady, Sister Carol Jean Czynnik, Clara Dudash, Verne Esposito, Alicia Junghans, Tyler McKinley, Rick McKinley, Rowen Ream, Alexandra Rice, Carly Rice, Doug Rice, Rose Rice, Gary Singel, Betty Spisak, Joanna Stone, Carol Sobbecky, Leona Sutt, Joe Torchia, David Watson, Sheila Weppner, Mark Wojno, Nancy Wojno, Faryn Wolff, 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 Guarno, USCG; Master at Arms 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Izeke W. Pinkas, Fallon, NV; Lt. Col. Joshua P. Higgins, US Army; Lt. Col. Melinda Rován 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, Poland.; 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; Tech Sgt. Devon Gilbert, Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska; 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; SSgt Elliott Mulvehill, USMC, Birmingham, AL.; Kasey Meredith, O.C.S., USMC, Quantico, VA; 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; 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 Thursday, at 11:00AM across from the Planned Parenthood on Franklin Street in Johnstown.**

**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.

