

July 14, 2024
15th 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@atlanticbnn.net
Facebook – [St. Francis of Assisi](#)
Oremus Ministry (Prayer Chain) – 814-539-1632
Web Site: <http://www.stfrancisofassisijohnstown.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 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

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

PARISH PICNIC – Our Parish picnic is being held at ACRP in Tanneryville on Sunday, July 28th. The last day to sign-up is July 22nd. Sign-up sheet is in the Main Vestibule.

BASKETS NEEDED FOR CHURCH PICNIC – Baskets are needed for the Church Picnic to be held on **Sunday, July 28** at ACRP grounds. 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.

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

YOUNG ADULT GROUP (18-39) – Our next Theology on Tap is July 31st at 6pm with Bob Sutton speaking on “Why do Catholics do that? – Where is that in the Bible?” at the Boulevard Grill. We will continue meeting every month on last Wednesdays for Theology on Tap and second Fridays for other events. Young adults of all faiths aged 18-39 are welcome to join us! For more information contact Geoffrey Stumpo at (814) 659-7415 or geoffstumpo@gmail.com.

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.

ST. THERESE CHURCH SUMMER BASKET & BURGER BASH – Saturday, July 20th 4-8PM and Sunday, July 21st from 11AM-4PM at St. Therese Church Social Hall. Live entertainment, Saturday, Cajun Norm presents The Foundry and Sunday 12-3pm Bo Moore. Themed Basket Drawing held on Sunday @ 4PM. Craft/Bistro Style Burgers, Pulled Pork Sandwiches, Pizza- Fresh Cut Fries, & Funnel Cake. Water- Soda – Beer. Basket Tickets sold at the Door.

CONTRIBUTIONS LAST WEEK: Loose – \$144.00; Adults – \$2,005.00; Monthly – \$1,211.00; Candles – \$200.00; Donation – \$30.00; Online Giving – \$312.50 – Total Collection – \$3,902.50

ST. ANDREW ADORATION CHAPEL, 1621 Ferndale Ave, Johnstown: In this blessed time of Eucharistic Revival in our Church, consider visiting and/or committing to an hour at our Perpetual Adoration Chapel. We are always seeking adorers and substitutes. The chapel is open Sunday morning immediately following the 10:30 Mass and remains open until 7:20 AM -Saturday morning each week. Consider giving one hour to our Lord by spending time with Him. One does not need to be a member of St Andrew Parish in order to visit or commit in any way. Currently, we are most in need of committed adorers on Tuesday, 12 AM (midnight) – 1AM, and Thursday morning 1:00 AM – 2AM, Many hours only have one Adorer, and it is preferable to have two each hour. If you feel called by Our Lord to sign up for an hour, or have any questions, please call [814-288-4324](tel:814-288-4324) Ext 5 visit <https://standrewjtown.weadorehim.com/en/schedule>, or feel free to call or text Terri Roy @ [815-255-5645](tel:815-255-5645). Jesus is waiting for you!

The Sanctuary Candle will burn for the month of July for Special Intentions for a Dear Friend.

Background on the Gospel Reading

This week's Gospel and the one for next week describe how Jesus sent the Disciples to minister in His Name and the Disciples' return to Jesus afterward. These two passages, however, are not presented together in Mark's Gospel. Inserted between the two is the report of Herod's fears that Jesus is John the Baptist back from the dead. In Mark's Gospel, Jesus' Ministry is presented in connection with the teaching of John the Baptist. Jesus' Public Ministry begins after John is arrested. John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus, Who preached the fulfillment of the Kingdom of God.

While we do not read these details about John the Baptist in our Gospel this week or next week, our Lectionary sequence stays consistent with Mark's theme. Recall that last week we heard how Jesus was rejected in His hometown of Nazareth. The insertion of the reminder about John the Baptist's ministry and his death at the hands of Herod in Mark's Gospel makes a similar point. Mark reminds his readers about this dangerous context for Jesus' Ministry and that of His Disciples. Preaching repentance and the Kingdom of God is dangerous business for Jesus and for His Disciples. Mark wants his readers to remember that we, too, may find resistance as we choose to be Disciples of Jesus.

Mark's Gospel tells us that Jesus sent out the Twelve. These Twelve were selected from among Jesus' Disciples and named by Mark in chapter 3. Mark notes that these Twelve are also called "Apostles." The word *Apostle* means "one who is sent." The number twelve is also a symbolic number, representing the twelve tribes of Israel. By naming Twelve Apostles, Jesus shows His Mission to be in continuity with the mission of God's people, Israel.

Jesus' instructions to the Apostles are very specific. He repeats the mission that they are sent to preach and to share His authority to heal and to drive out demons. Jesus sends them in pairs, establishing His Mission as a communal endeavor. Jesus also instructs them to travel lightly, without the customary food, money, and extra set of clothes. These instructions mean that the Twelve will be dependent on the hospitality of others, just as Jesus depended on others to provide for His needs.

Jesus continues to send us into the world as His Disciples. But like the First Disciples, we are not sent alone. Jesus has given us the community of the Church, which strengthens our life of discipleship. The Christian message can only authentically be proclaimed in and through the community of faith that is the Church. In our work with others, we build this community of faith and can invite others to share in it.

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Our readings today provide examples of people who trusted in the Lord. It is a reminder for us to live our day-to-day lives in total surrender to His care.

When we live our lives doing the will of God, there will be days that are hard. Just because we are doing what the Lord is asking of us, doesn't mean every day will be perfect. As a matter of fact, we might be led to rejection or suffering because of what we believe. The moment we are faced with that conflict, we are called to respond as Amos did – not by turning our back on God, but rather, remaining faithful to Him. God has a plan, even in the darkest moments. We are called to trust in his ways.

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 2nd 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 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, Poland.; Petty Officer 1st 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, 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; SSgt Elliott Mulvehill, USMC, Birmingham, AL.; Kasey Meredith, O.C.S., USMC, Quantico, VA; 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; 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.

