

APRIL 2, 2017
5th Sunday of Lent
**THE FAITH COMMUNITY OF
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI**

Mission Statement: St. Francis of Assisi is a Roman Catholic worshipping community, dedicated to ministering to our members and to the greater community in the image given to us by Jesus. This 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
Oremus Ministry (Prayer Chain) – 814-539-1632
Web Site: <http://www.stfrancisofassisijohnstown.com>
Daily Mass Schedule at St. Francis of Assisi
SEE LENTEN SCHEDULE
Mon., Wed.; Thurs., Fri. – 8:00AM; Tues.–6:30PM;
Sat - 8:00AM
First Friday 8:00AM and 5:30 PM
Confession – Tues., 6:00PM, Sat. 3:15 – 3:45PM
First Friday 5:00PM
Weekend Mass Schedule
Saturday – 4:00PM / Sunday – 7:30AM / 9:30AM
Parish Secretary – Carol Pisula
Office Hours – 9:00AM to 3:00PM – Mon. thru Thurs
Parish Council President – Ryan Woodruff – 659-9781
Finance Council President - TBA
Cemetery Council President - William Heim – 254- 2942
Director of Religious Education – Carol Pisula 254-1961

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 6 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 8:30AM – 5:30PM.

THE CHILDREN OF OUR PARISH experienced the forgiveness of God in the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday, April 1 at 9:00AM. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue to prepare to receive Our Lord for the first time in Holy Communion on Sunday, May 7. The class this year includes: *Paisley Britt, Kylie Durst, Anna Glennon, Kayla Lee and Annika McClintock.*

MEN'S CLUB will meet on Thursday, April 6 at 7:00PM in the Activity Center. New members are always welcome! The Men's Club will be selling Mother's Day Tickets beginning next weekend, April 8 & 9 in the vestibule.

FRIDAY, April 7 is the First Friday of the month. Adoration will begin after the **12Noon Mass** and continue until 5:30PM. Signup sheets are in the vestibule of the Church. There should be at least two adorers present for each time slot. (This is also a matter of safety for the Blessed Sacrament – adorers adore and protect.) America and our President need our prayers for a rejuvenated America.



THE FINAL LENTEN FISH FRY will be held on Friday, April 7. There will NOT be a Fish Fry on Good Friday. All help is greatly appreciated, especially during Lent. *Donations of baked goods for a Bake Sale will be accepted as well as donations of soda and water.* **REMINDER:** This is an excellent opportunity for students in need of service hours to fulfill that obligation after school on Friday. Profit for the Fish Fry will be published at the conclusion of the Lenten Season.

SEDER MEAL – Annual Commemoration of the Seder Meal will take place on Holy Thursday, April 13 at 5:00PM in the Activity Center. This will be a covered dish event with the Parish providing the meat. Bring your favorite dish to share and join other parishioners in this celebration of the Passover Meal. Signup sheets are in the vestibule. **Deadline for signup: Sunday, April 2.**



CHILDREN'S EASTER EGG HUNT will be held on Sunday, April 9 beginning at 12:30PM in the Activity Center.

PLEASE NOTE: No candles are to be lit after this Sunday, April 2.

ALTAR SERVERS: Please take home your albs to be cleaned for the upcoming Easter Season. You are also reminded to be present at the 7:00PM Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND: Loose - \$367.45; Adults - \$2,689.82; Children - \$28.00; Monthly - \$85.00; Candles - \$149.75; Black & Indian Mission - \$3.00; St. Vincent de Paul - \$20.00; Missalettes - \$5.00; Catholic Relief - \$253.00; Catholic Register - \$10.00; Flowers - \$514.00; Donation - \$10.00; Misc. - \$150.00. Total Collection - \$4,285.02. 198 out of 314 families used envelopes. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish. All registered parishioners should be using parish envelopes.

LITURGICAL MINISTRY signup sheets for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday are located in the vestibule. Please consider participating in these Solemn Liturgies.

LENT SCHEDULE

During Lent, daily Mass (Mon. thru Fri.) will take place at 12Noon (Tues. – Mass with the Novena to St. Anthony will also be celebrated at 6:30PM).

Stations of the Cross will be prayed on all Fridays of Lent at 7:00PM.

Divine Mercy Chaplet and Lenten Lamentations will be held on Sundays at 3:00PM, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Monday of Holy Week, April 10 Mass will be celebrated at 8:00AM. No Noon Mass.

DEACON BRUCE will be conducting a Lenten Course on the Resurrection Experience to be held April 5 from 6:30PM – 7:30PM. This presentation takes up the starting point for engaging Jesus then and now, namely the distinctive Christian understanding of the Resurrection. The Course will take place at the Activity Center.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The final Lenten Fish Fry will be held on Friday, April 7.

Lenten Course – Wednesday, April 5 – 6:30PM – 7:30PM

Easter Egg Hunt – Sunday, April 9 – 12:30PM

Seder Meal – Holy Thursday, April 13 – 5:00PM

THE PASCHAL CANDLE this year has been purchased in Memory of Sam & Rose Trapanotto by their family. There are three sets of side candles that may be purchased in memory of a loved one or other intention. Please contact the Parish Office for information.

THANK YOU to all who have contributed so generously to the Food Drive to give to the “Least of our Brethren.” Your participation is so wonderful. In February, we collected more than 248 pounds for St. Vincent de Paul's Soup Kitchen. So far in March, we have collected 200 pounds already. This is really awesome. The following prayer is a prayer offered by a worker in a soup kitchen, it seems appropriate for this project too. It tells us that what we are doing really matters. *“We thank You, Lord, for our lying down last night and our rising up this morning. We thank You that the walls of our room were not the walls of our grave, that our bed was not our cooling board nor our bedclothes our winding sheet. We thank You for the feet that are coming through this line for food today and the hands that are giving it out. We know, Lord, that You're coming through this line today, so help us to treat You right. Yes, Lord, help us to treat You right.”* Prayer by Joyce Hollyday.

Liturgical Reflection... Saint Paul states, “Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the Church and gave Himself up for her, that He might sanctify her” (Ephesians 5:25). Giving Himself over on the Cross out of love for us, Christ is the supreme model of self-giving love. “For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one. This is the great mystery, and I mean in reference to Christ and the Church” (Ephesians 5:31-32). Married life is intimately tied to the Cross of Christ. Where there is sacrifice and self-giving, there is Christ and there is love (Catechism of the Catholic Church Number 1623). 2017, *Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648.*

SYMBOLS OF THE PASSION OF JESUS



During the fifth week of Lent, DICE – instruments of chance, and a seamless GARMENT are placed at the foot of the Cross. Everything had to be, to fulfill all that the Scriptures said about the Messiah.

Matthew 27:35 – When they had crucified Him, they divided His garments, rolling dice for them to see what each should take.

Luke 23:24 – They divided His garments, rolling dice for them.

John 19:23-24 – After the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took His garments and divided them four ways, one for each soldier. There was also His tunic, but this tunic was woven in one piece from top to bottom and had no seam. They said to each other, *We should not tear it. Let us throw dice and see who gets it.* The purpose of this was to have the Scriptures fulfilled – *They divided My garments among them; for My clothing they cast lots.* (Psalm 22:19). And this is what the soldiers did.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

James Edward Adams, Rose Blaschak, Galynn Brady, Sister Carol Jean Czernik, Mary Davis, Joan Delusa, Stephen Fabina, LeAnn Golby, Alicia Junghans, Susan Keselyak, Scott Lanz (Godson of fr. Anthony Francis), Kathryn Legat, Larry Olek, Sophie Regula, Alexandra Rice, Carly Rice, Doug Rice, James Schuster, Mary Slezak, Joanna Stone, Carol Sobecky, Mary Subich, Leona Sutt, Agnes Swarney, Jeanne Toth, Irene Virus, and Agnes Warhul, Sheila Weppner.

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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; **Brandon Burdett**, USMC; **Master at Arms 2nd Class Izeke W. Pinkas**, Okinawa, Japan; **Lt. Col. Joshua P. Higgins**, US Army; **Petty Officer 1st Class Paul Rambish**, US Navy, Coronado Naval Base, San Diego; **Major Melinda Rován Corallo**, Lakenheath Air Force Base, England; **HMC David Bakos**, US Navy; **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, **Airman 1st Class Maxwell Schutte**, F. E. Warren, Wyo; **Sgt. Bryan Maxwell Porath**, **Captain Aaron Donahey**, US Army, Fort Bliss, El Paso, Texas; **Petty Officer 1st Class Heather L. Dovala**, Great Lakes, IL.; **Spec Jarod Pisarchik**, Army National Guard; **Ens. Kara Yingling**, Pentagon; **Lt. JG Shannon Yingling**; **Pvt Daniel Maslo**, Camp Geiger, NC; **Airman 1st Class Devon Gilbert**, Tinker AFB, OK; **Senior Airman Daniel Christner**, USAF, 193rd Special Operations Wing; **Lt. Col Steven Thomas**, USAF, deploying to the Middle East; **2nd Lt. Colin Harrington**, US Army, Bethesda, MD; **2nd Lt. Ryan Powers**, USMC, Camp Lejeune, NC; **Airman 1st Class Anthony Rosage**, USAF, The Presidio, Monterey, CA.; **Tech Sgt. Daniel Bracken**, USAF, deployed to Kobal Afghanistan; **Adken Torchia**, US Army, Fort Benning, GA; **PVT. 1st Class Lucas Tomak**, US Army, Fort Hood, TX; **Lt. Kenneth Yacynych**, US Army, Afghanistan.

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.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

PRO LIFE VIGIL Every Thursday from 4:00PM - 5:00PM we hold a prayer vigil across from the Franklin Street Planned Parenthood facility here in Johnstown. For more information, call Gale at 539-0155.

ST. THERESE LENTEN PIROGHI SALE – Hand-made/Home-made potato and cheese piroghi made fresh each week during Lent. Call in orders every Monday until April 3 from 9:00AM – 11:00AM. Cost is \$6.50 dozen (with or without onions). Pick up your order on Fridays from 9:00AM – 2:00PM at our Social Hall, Upper Decker Avenue. **No orders will be taken during Holy Week.**

WEST END IMPROVEMENT GROUP- Thursday, April 6, please join us for our first meeting of 2017 at 6:00PM at Grace Lutheran Church, corner of Sheridan St. & Chandler Avenue. Saturday, April 8 – Annual Egg Hunt, at the skate park, corner of J St. and Fairfield Ave. Registration begins at 12:30. Hunt starts at 1:00. Candy in every egg, free to everyone, 4 age groups (3-4, 5-6, 7-8 & 9-10). Bring a basket or bag for your eggs. Rain date, April 9th.

SPAGHETTI DINNER to benefit Resurrection Parish Mission Trip, Saturday, April 22 from 3:00PM – 8:00PM at St. Francis of Assisi Activity Center. Adults - \$8.00; children (4-12) - \$5.00, under 3, free.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI: Every 1st Friday there is Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during Lent from 12:30pm – 5:30PM. Our nation needs our prayers. Come before Jesus in the Eucharist with our hopes and concerns.

***ALL LIVES MATTER – INSIDE THE WOMB AND OUTSIDE THE WOMB
IT'S NOT ABOUT A WOMAN'S RIGHT TO KILL HER BABY...
IT'S ABOUT HER BABY'S RIGHT TO BE BORN***