

SEPTEMBER 24, 2017
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
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 – stfrancisich@atlanticbbs.net

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

Web Site: <http://www.stfrancisofassisijohnstown.com>

Daily Mass Schedule at St. Francis of Assisi

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

Acting Finance Council President – Brian Mayko

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.

Rosary Society – First Monday of the month at 6:00PM. Recitation of the Rosary, Reflection, Benediction.



CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI, Patron of our Parish - *Sunday, October 8, 2017* with a Covered Dish Dinner (meat will be provided) St. Francis of Assisi Activity Center. Doors open at 12Noon. Dinner begins at 12:15PM. Bring your favorite salad, side dish or dessert to share. Signup sheets are available in the vestibule. **Deadline for signup: Sunday, October 1.** *BONUS: Watch the Steelers Game after the meal. Snacks & Refreshments will be provided for the game!*

PLEASE NOTE: The Parish Office will be CLOSED on Thursday, September 28.

ROSARY SOCIETY will meet on **Monday, October 2** at 6:00PM in the Church with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary and Benediction and a reflection. Come & join us.

TRANSITUS - The passing of St. Francis from this life to Eternal Life will be celebrated on Tuesday, October 3 at the conclusion of the 6:30PM Mass. The Transitus is a Franciscan devotion to ritually remember the passing of Saint Francis from this life into God.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6 is the First Friday of the month. Adoration will begin after the **8:00AM 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.)

BLESSING OF ANIMALS will take place on Saturday, October 7 at 10:00AM under the front canopy of the Church.

DEACON BRUCE is offering a course entitled “Days of the Martyrs.” The course will cover the period of the second and third centuries; when politics and persecution forged a global Faith of Christianity. The course will cover persecutions of the Church and internal division on matters of Faith. The relationship between Judaism and the conversion to Christianity will be studied in addition to the affect the Emperors Nero and Constantine had on the Faith. *The classes will be held Wednesday, Oct. 11, 18, 25, Wednesday, Nov. 1, 8, & 15 from 6:00PM – 7:00PM in the Activity Center.* A signup sheet can be found in the vestibule.

PROFIT FROM THE FISH FRY held Friday, September 8 - \$3,132.26. Thank you for your continued support.

WINTER SPECIAL tickets for the month of January 2018 will be available for purchase this weekend. Chance to win \$500 on New Year’s Day, \$100 on Saturdays and Sundays and \$50 each weekday, \$200 – Martin Luther King. Cost: \$5.00. Tickets will also be available at the Fish Fry.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE to light a candle in honor of Our Lady of Fatima, please contact the Parish Office. The offering of \$3.00 may be placed in an envelope marked Our Lady of Fatima and placed in the candle money box at the rear of the Church.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND: Loose - \$408.00; Adults - \$2,447.77; Children - \$25.00; Monthly - \$35.00; Candles - \$107.75; Missalettes - \$18.00; Catholic University - \$5.00; Hurricane Relief - \$100.00; Thank you for your concern for hurricane victims; Misc. - \$60.00. Total Collection - \$3,206.52. 168 out of 314 families used envelopes. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE (formerly known as the Annual Catholic Appeal) has now begun. *The target amount for St. Francis of Assisi is \$18,608.00 which breaks down to \$59.26 per family.* Contributions exceeding the target will be refunded to the parish. Total received as of August 7: 66 of 314 families contributed \$8,995.00 which is 48% of our goal. Let’s keep working to meet the Parish goal. Thanks to all who have contributed to help meet the goal.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH is looking for a few Good Men... (Remember the slogan – Uncle Sam is looking for a few Good Men). There are times when our Activity Center is booked for an event and another event following the next day. (e.g., the Bandshell Banquet on Friday, Feb. 9, 2018 possibly followed on Sat., Feb. 10, 2018 for a Boy Scouts Banquet). So, we are looking for a group of Parishioners (male and female) who could come in on Saturday morning to clean up the hall and help prepare to set up the hall for the next coming event. If you are interested in volunteering your time and talent, please call the Parish Secretary (Carol Pisula) at 539-1632. **THE MORE HANDS, THE BETTER!** Thank you and God Bless you!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, September 24 – Religious Education – 10:45AM – 12Noon.
Thursday, Sept. 28 & Fri., Sept. 29 – Trip to Basilica of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, Lewiston, NY
Monday, October 2 – Rosary Society – 6:00PM
Saturday, October 7 – Blessing of Animals – 10:00AM
Sunday, October 8 – Feast Day Covered Dish Dinner – 12:15PM
Sunday, October 8 – Confirmation Class 2 – 6:00PM – 8:00PM
Wednesday, October 11 – “Days of the Martyrs” – 6:00pm – 7:00PM – Activity Center

FAMILY MARIAN CELEBRATION – Mass & Rosary will be held Sunday, October 1 at 3:00PM at St. Benedict’s Church. The theme for this year’s celebration is “Observation of the 100th Anniversary of the Apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Fatima, Portugal.” This year, 2017, marks the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary to three shepherd children in Fatima from May to October 1917. The message of Fatima includes a call to conversion of heart, repentance of sin, prayer (especially the Rosary) and devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Bishop Mark will be the principal celebrant and will give the homily.

Please join Bishop Mark, along with the clergy, children and Religious organizations in honoring our Blessed Mother. This Mass fulfils your Sunday obligation.

PRO-LIFE NATIONAL LIFE CHAIN – Sunday, October 1 from 2:00-3:00PM along Broad St. in Cambria City. Stand with thousands of pro-life individuals throughout the USA and Canada in honor of millions of babies whose lives have been lost to abortion. Pray for people in crisis situations and for our nation. You'll be a light in a darkened world as you help put an end to abortion through prayer. For more information call Heidi – 536-7335.

Liturgical Reflection... After the Our Father at the Mass celebrating Matrimony, the prayer “Deliver us” is omitted and the couple receives the Nuptial Blessing. The Priest, standing and facing the bride and bridegroom, invokes upon them God’s blessings. The Nuptial Blessing is never omitted at Mass. There are three different blessings to choose. The engaged couple in planning the celebration of Matrimony is invited to select one of the three Nuptial Blessings. This is an ancient prayer for the newly married bride and bridegroom in the Christian tradition. *Order of Celebrating Matrimony*, Nos. 72-73 206-207, 208-209. 2017, *Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648.*

Stewardship Reflection... The vineyard owner in today’s Gospel asks, “Am I not free to do as I wish with my own money?” We are likewise free. Is a generous return to the Lord, in thanksgiving for His many blessings, among the choices we have made?

I CONTINUE to be amazed and edified by your generosity to the Poor Box, the weekly collection of groceries for the St. Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen and special collections. Generosity especially to the poor and needy is absolutely outstanding. God Bless You! *fr. Anthony Francis.*

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

James Edward Adams, Rose Blaschak, Galynn Brady, Sister Carol Jean Czyrnik, Mary Davis, Joan Delusa, LeAnn Golby, Alicia Junghans, Kathryn Legat, Tyler McKinley, Rick McKinley, Larry Olek, Sandy Ream, Alexandra Rice, Carly Rice, Doug Rice, James Schuster, Mary Slezak, Bernadette Solomon, Joanna Stone, Carol Sobacky, Leona Sutt, Agnes Swarney, Jeanne Toth, Irene Virus, and 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; **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 Rovon 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, Wy; **Sgt. Bryan Maxwell Porath**, **Captain Aaron Donahey**, US Army, Fort Benning, GA; **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; **Senior Airman 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; Fort Gordon, GA; **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; **Cpl Elliott Mulvehill**, USMC, New River, NC.; **A1C Jeremy Williams**, Sheppard AFB, Texas.

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.

ULTREYA – Please join us for our Ultreya gathering on Thursday, October 5 from 6:30PM – 7:30PM at the Oratory located at Eighth Ave and Chestnut St in Cambria City. All are welcome.

ROAST BEEF DINNER – St. John Gualbert Cathedral will be holding their annual Roast Beef Dinner with salad bar; 11:00AM – 2:00PM, Sunday, October 8 at St. John Gualbert Activity Center. Adults: \$10.50; children ages 5-10: \$6; children under 5: free. Take-outs available.

PENNY PIE SOCIAL – St. Anne’s Church Hall, Woodland Ave., Moxham, Sunday, October 8 from 1:00PM – 4:00PM. Admission: \$1.25.

THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL will hold its Annual Dinner and Liturgy, Sunday, October 15 at St. Francis University in Loretto. This year the Society celebrates 400 years of Vincentian Charism. For information concerning the event or reservations contact the Society at 814-943-1981.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI: Every 1st Friday there is Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 8:30AM – 5:30PM. Our nation and the world needs our prayers. Come before Jesus in the Eucharist with our hopes and concerns.