

OCTOBER 8, 2017
27th 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.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS the family and friends of +George Felix who was laid to rest last week. Welcoming God, receive from our hands the loved ones we return to You.

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.



SPECIAL REQUEST from Bishop Mark – I am urging all people of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown to pray for those affected by storms and earthquakes. And I am asking that everyone offer financial support. A **SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR DISASTER RELIEF** will be taken next weekend, October 14 & 15. All monies will go to Catholic Charities USA, which is already assisting in the affected areas. Thank you for your generosity to those in need.

FISH FRY will take place on Friday, October 13 from 11:00AM until 6:00PM. Donations of baked goods, soda and water are welcome. Any time you can give to this event is greatly appreciated.

CALLING ALL SAINTS - The children of the Parish are invited to dress as their favorite Saint and attend the 9:30 AM Mass on **Sunday, October 29, 2017**. Costumes will be provided, however you are welcome to dress your child as the Saint of his/her choice. The **children are asked to gather in the vestibule of the Church no later than 9:00 AM** so we can dress the children in costume. Plan on taking part in this tribute to All Saints! The children will also take part in the Offertory Procession at Mass. It was a wonderful celebration last year and we hope to repeat it again!



ALL SOULS – If you would like to have a picture of a deceased loved one placed at the Altar for All Soul's Day, please bring the picture to the Parish Office or the Church. All photos must be received no later than Thursday, October 26.

ANNUAL MEMORIAL CELEBRATION of Parishioners who were laid to rest this year (November 1, 2016 – October 31, 2017) will be celebrated at 6:00PM on Thursday, November 2. Members of the families of the deceased are invited to take part in this Mass by lighting a candle in their memory. Please contact the Parish Office if you or a member of the family or friend of our departed loved ones and are able to participate in this Liturgy. All are welcome to join us in this celebration of Christ's victory over sin and death, and the hope of Eternal Life.



MEN'S CLUB TURKEY RAFFLE will take place on Sunday, November 5. Doors open at 1:00PM and raffle will take place from 2:00PM – 4:00PM. There are also envelopes in the vestibule containing raffle tickets for each family. Thank you for your continued support of the Men's Club.

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

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.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND: Loose - \$208.32; Adults - \$2,443.77; Children - \$25.00; Monthly - \$447.67; Candles - \$132.75; Retired Priest Medical - \$35.02; Feast Day - \$391.02; Misc. - \$547.36. Total Collection - \$4,230.91. 174 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, October 8, 15, 22, 29 – Religious Education – 10:45AM – 12Noon
Sunday, October 8 – 9:30AM Mass – Rite of Enrollment for Confirmation Candidates
Sunday, October 8 – Confirmation Class 2 – 6:00PM – 8:00PM
Wednesday, October 11 – “Days of the Martyrs” – 6:00pm – 7:00PM – Activity Center
Friday, October 13 – Fish Fry – 11:00AM – 6:00PM

Liturgical Reflection... Following the Prayer after Communion, the Bride may wish to take a flower before the image of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This is a popular local custom in the Diocese. Assisted by her husband, the Bride goes before the image of Our Lady and prays for Mary's aid in her new marriage. As Mary was the mother of God and St. Joseph was the spouse of the Virgin Mary, this new Bride prays to be a holy wife and that God bless her marriage with children so she may love them as deeply as Mary loved her family. Following the placement of the flower before the image of God's mother, the Bride and Groom may give flowers to their mothers. 2017, *Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648.*

Stewardship Reflection... Have consumerism and materialism stolen your claim to the vineyard that is the Kingdom of God here on earth? Jesus calls each of us to share fruit, our-God-given talents, with others.

Families and the Gospel... Matthew 22:1-14 – The king in today's Gospel had a bottom line beyond which he would not negotiate. As parents we need to identify what is critical (non-negotiable) and what is open to discussion. Not all issues are equal.

SAVE THE DATE – The Shroud of Turin talk will be held once again at St. Benedict Church on Sunday, October 29 at 3:00PM. In 2013 Bill Wingard established “Shroud Talks” to present the history and science of the Shroud of Turin and tackle the biggest mystery...Is the shroud the actual burial cloth? Personal research coupled with the knowledge and help of the original photographer, Barrie Schwartz, for scientific evaluation in 1978 make for a powerful and comprehensive presentation that will not disappoint. You are invited to hear the talk and see the full size replica of the Shroud of Turin. Attendees are encouraged to bring their cameras. Priests will be available after the presentation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. No tickets are required; a love offering will be collected. For more information contact Deacon Michael at 814-288-3036. All are welcome!

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

James Edward Adams, Kathy Barchak; 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 Sobczyk, Leona Sutt, Agnes Swarney, Jeanne Toth, Irene Virus, and Sheila Weppner.

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**, 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 Donahy**, 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.

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.

OKTOBERFEST – St. Therese Church, 536 Decker Avenue will host its Annual Oktoberfest on Saturday, Oct 14th from 4:00 – 8:30PM and Sunday, Oct 15th from 11:00AM – 4:30PM. Join us for delicious Ethnic food including Kolbassi, Haluski, German Potato Salad, Pigs, Pierogi, Lamb, Apple Strudel, Apple Dumplings, Home Made Pies, Beverages and much more. Saturday there will be a Large Wheel Raffle (5:30-8PM), instant bingo, 50/50, theme basket raffle. Music by the Rhythm Masters on Sunday from 1-4, and from 2-2:30PM a performance by Jacqueline's Dance Studio. Drawing for the Basket raffle will be at 4PM Sunday. Everyone is welcome!! Hope to see you there!!!

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.

SPAGHETTI DRIVE-BY – The Church of the Transfiguration will be having a Spaghetti Drive-By-Dinner on Sunday, October 22 from 11:00AM to 1:30PM at the School Hall, 201 Third Street, Conemaugh. The meal includes: Spaghetti & Meatballs, Tossed Salad, Dinner Roll and Dessert.

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.