

May 25, 2025
6th Sunday of Easter
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](https://www.facebook.com/stfrancisofassisi)
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 –
Finance Council President – Robert Bimeal
Cemetery Council President – William Heim – 254- 2942
Men's Club President – Philip Scott
Rosary Society – Cecilia Neiderer
Gabriel Project – 814-418-1813
Asst. DRE – Deacon Bruce Becker

MASS SCHEDULE – Monday – 9:00AM, Tuesday – 6:15PM, Wednesday – Saturday – 9:00AM
Saturday Vigil– 4:00PM, Sunday – 7:30AM & 9:30AM – Holy Day – 5:30 PM

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

***NO EUCHARISTIC ADORATION FOR THE SUMMER MONTHS OF JUNE, JULY,
AUGUST, & SEPTEMBER !!***

God's special Blessings of Success and Happiness to the 2025 Graduates of elementary, middle, high school, vocational, trade and college students of our Parish!

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED – On Monday, May 26th in Observance of Memorial Day and also on Thursday, May 29th in Observance of The Ascension of the Lord.

MEN'S CLUB MEETINGS – The Men's Club WILL be holding meetings throughout the summer. They will continue to be the first Thursday of every month at 6:30 PM.

ASCENSION THURSDAY SIGN-UP – A sign-up sheet for Ascension Thursday is in the Main Vestibule. We are in need of **3 Eucharistic Ministers for the Vigil Mass on May 28th at 5:30PM and 2 Servers and 3 Eucharistic Ministers for May 29th Mass at 5:30PM.** Please sign up where you are able to help!

THANK YOU – to the Men's Club and anyone else who showed up to help plant and mulch the flowers for the Church. Everyone's help is greatly appreciated!

CORPUS CHRISTI SUNDAY CLOSING MASS FOR THE NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL – on June 22nd at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona. The Eucharist will be exposed for quiet adoration starting at 11AM. 3:00–4:15PM Confessions, 3:00PM Holy Hour for Vocations, 4:00PM Chaplet of Divine Mercy for those who have fallen away from the Church; 4:15PM Indoor Eucharistic Procession & Benediction, 5:00PM Mass with Bishop Mark. Refreshments will be served following the 5:00 PM Mass.

TELEVISED MASS FOR WIDOWS & WIDOWERS – Mass for Widows and Widowers to be televised to remember your loved ones on **Sunday, May 25, 2025. Celebrated by Bishop Mark Bartchak at 11:00 AM.** All spouses will be acknowledged and remembered at Mass. The event is sponsored by the Diocesan Family Life Office and the Catholic Ministries Drive. Please be advised, a special broadcast of a sporting event on WATM ABC 23 may delay this broadcast. All names of loved ones will be seen during Communion.

HOLY NAME PARISH 64th ANNUAL FESTIVAL – Holy Name Parish, Ebensburg, is sponsoring its 64th Annual Festival on May 30, 31 and June 1 featuring a Fish Dinner (Fried or Baked) on Friday May 30th from 4:00 to 7:00 PM, (Adults \$15.00, children under 12 \$7.00) and a Turkey Dinner on Sunday June 1st from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM (Adults \$15.00, children under 12 \$7.00). Refreshments, musical entertainment, family fun & games, baked goods, kiddie corner, giant flea market, basket raffle with over 100 baskets and more!

BISHOP MCCORT CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY – will hold their 5th annual Crusher Classic Golf Tournament on Sat., May 31 at Northwinds Peninsula Golf Club, 1772 Peninsula Dr., Central City, Pa. 15926, with a shotgun start at noon. Scramble Format, Best Ball. Registration fee of \$120.00 per golfer, includes 18 holes of golf; cart rental, hot dinner and beverages. Please register at 814-961-3622, option 5. Paypal: @CrusherAthletics. Benefits the B.M.C.E. PTO and Athletics and Extracurricular Association.

BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING

This portion of John's Gospel comes near the end of the first of four chapters that make up Jesus' long farewell discourse at the Last Supper. This section of chapter 14 actually sums up the themes of the opening of the discourse: the Christian's life is not shaped by Jesus' absence but by God's abiding presence; God's presence overcomes anxiety about God's absence; and the present holds in it the seeds of a fresh future shaped by love, not fear.

These verses also contain a glimpse of some of the other themes of the farewell discourse: Jesus' relationship with the Father and the Disciples' relationship to Jesus connect the Disciples to the Father as well. Jesus promises to send an Advocate or intercessor who will remind the Disciples of everything that Jesus taught them and bring them peace.

Jesus is preparing His Disciples in advance for His absence so that they will continue to believe in Him and not feel all alone after His return to the Father. After the initial excitement of His Easter appearances, Jesus will remain with His followers in a very different way throughout the centuries.

As our celebration of the Easter Season is coming to an end, the Liturgy reminds us that Jesus remains with us through the Holy Spirit, Who teaches us everything we need to know, reminds us of all that Jesus taught, and brings us peace.

May 25, 2025 – 6th Sunday of Easter

The concept of hospitality is fundamental to a stewardship way of life. When we envision hospitality, we naturally think of offering a sincere and warm welcome – to those new to our parish, for instance. We picture inviting them in and making them feel at home and at ease in our presence, communicating to them that they are highly valued.

But if we want our parish to be a place of genuine Christian hospitality, we must be sure that our own hearts are hospitable dwelling places for the Blessed Trinity. Then our smiles and words, our greetings and ministries will radiate with the warmth of God's love. And our parish family will become at least a little bit like Heaven on earth. This is the simplicity and glory of a stewardship way of life.

A Prayer for Honor and Respect for Veterans

Heavenly Father, today we honor and remember all veterans who have served in the military. We thank you for your bravery, commitment, and sacrifices. May they know how much their service is appreciated, and may they be treated with the respect and honor they deserve. We pray for their continued health, well-being, and peace, and ask that You bless them abundantly for their sacrifices. Amen.

CONTRIBUTIONS LAST WEEK – Loose – \$141.00; Adults – \$1,890.25; Monthly – \$33.00; Candles – \$157.00; St. Vincent DePaul – \$137.00; Cemetery – \$85.00; Mother's Day – \$95.00; Ascension – \$40.00; Easter – \$10.00; Donation – \$50.00; Online Giving – \$235.00 – Total Collection – \$2,873.25.

The Sanctuary Candle will burn for the month of December for – Special Intentions for two Dear Friends.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

James Edward Adams, Kathryn Barczak, James Bauer, Patricia Bauer, Deacon Bruce Becker, Sally Becker, Galynn Brady, Sister Carol Jean Czyrnik, Alicia Junghans, Tyler McKinley, Rick McKinley, Rowen Ream, Alexandra Rice, Carly Rice, Doug Rice, Rose Rice, Gary Singel, Betty Spisak, Joanna Stone, Carol Sobecky, 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 Rovon 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, Fort Moore, Savannah, GA.; **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.; **1st Lt. Kasey Meredith**, USMC, Camp Lejeune, NC; **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.

