

**June 29, 2025**  
**Solemnity of Saints Peter & Paul, Apostles**  
**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 – [stfrancisich@atlanticbbn.net](mailto:stfrancisich@atlanticbbn.net)**  
**Facebook – [St Francis of Assisi Church](https://www.facebook.com/StFrancisofAssisiChurch)**  
**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 – Mary Frances King**  
**Finance Council President – Teresa Thompson**  
**Cemetery Council President – William Heim – 254- 2942**  
**Men's Club President – John Davis**  
**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** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 !!\***

**ROSARY SOCIETY** –Rosary Society will meet on **Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> at 3:00PM**. Please consider joining us for Rosary, Reflection and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

**ROSARY RALLY** – **Sponsored by America Needs Fatima**. Please join your fellow Parishioners to pray the Rosary for Life (from conception to natural death) **at 12:00 Noon on Saturday, July 5<sup>th</sup> on the corner of Barron Avenue and D Street**. Help to be a beacon of hope for others and ignite a fire of faith in the hearts of those around you! Thanking you ahead of time!!!



**FRANCIS UPCOMING FUNDRAISING EVENTS** – St. Francis Annual Church Picnic will be held on Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup>. Fundraising Committee will also be selling a \$10 ticket; they will go on sale shortly to defray costs for the upcoming Music Bingo. Details will follow in the near future. Music Bingo will be held on Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>. Cinnamon Rolls will be sold near Thanksgiving. American Music Theatre Christmas Show – Deck the Halls on Friday, November 21<sup>st</sup> at 3:00PM, more info to come soon!

**MANY THANKS** – to Gale Bala for her dedicated years to the Music Ministry of our Parish. Due to some medical issues, Gale is stepping away for an extended period of time. Our prayers are with you Gale! Our Parish is very grateful to Sue Paonessa for stepping in and securing cantors for the weekend Liturgies. Thank you Sue and thank you to all our guest cantors!

**BASKETS NEEDED FOR CHURCH PICNIC** – Baskets are requested for our Annual Parish Picnic and may be brought to the Chapel area during weekend Masses. For information contact Georgetta Labuda at 814-535-4251 or Gale Bala at 814-279-2195

**St. VINCENT DE PAUL FAMILY KITCHEN** – Sip, Rock, & Duck drop on Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup> at People Natural Gas Park, Downtown, Johnstown. Gates open at 5:30 PM; Jimmy Adler Band at 7:00 PM; Duck drop at 8:00 PM; and North Mississippi Allstars will perform at 9:00 PM. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the gate. Tickets can be purchased at this website:

<https://events.eventgroove.com/event/Sip-Rock-And-Duck-Drop-Feat-North-Mississippi-108174>

**BASILICA OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL PARISH** – In Loretto, will hold outdoor Masses every Sunday evening at 7:00 PM at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Alleghenies beginning on Sunday, May 25 and concluding on Sunday, August 31. Please bring a lawn chair. In the event of inclement weather, the Mass will be celebrated in the Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel. Special Masses this Summer are as follows: June 8 “Come and See” Vocations Awareness - Fr. Brian Norris; June 29 Solemnity of SS. Peter and Paul - “The Missionary Spirit of Fr. Gallitzin”; July 20 Bishop’s Mass for Married Couples; August 3 Bishop’s Mass for Young People – Return to College, Work, Military. The historic Prince Gallitzin Chapel House, next to the Our Lady of the Alleghenies Shrine, will be open on the following Sunday afternoons from 3:00 – 6:00 PM for self-guided tours, pilgrimages and visits: July 20, August 3, 17, 31.

**CONTRIBUTIONS LAST WEEK** – Loose – \$151.00; Adults – \$1,548.25; Monthly – \$125.00; Candles – \$135.00; Father’s Day – \$40.00; Online Giving – \$335.00 – Total Collection – \$2,334.25.

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

**The Blessed Mother Candle will burn June 29<sup>th</sup> – July 5<sup>th</sup> for Improved Health for Marie Mikesic From: Andrew & Kathy Legat**

## **BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING**

Mark places this incident at Caesarea Philippi. Luke, because of the importance he wishes to give to prayer in his Gospel, places it in the context of Jesus praying. But Matthew keeps it at Caesarea Philippi. In today's Gospel, Jesus asks the disciples for a "field report" by asking what people are saying about him. He refers to himself as the Son of Man, a term derived from the Jewish Scriptures, found in the book of Daniel and in other apocryphal writings. Many scholars suggest that "Son of Man" is best understood to mean "human being."

As Jesus turns the question directly to the disciples and asks what they believe, Peter speaks for all of them when he announces that they believe Jesus to be the Christ. "Christ" is the Greek translation of the Hebrew word for "messiah," which means "the anointed one." At the time of Jesus, the image of the "messiah" was laden with popular expectations, most of which looked for a political leader who would free the Jewish people from Roman occupation.

Because Jesus has referred to himself a number of times in Matthew by Christological titles this moment is not the revelation of who Jesus is as in Mark. Instead it marks an important moment in the development of the Church. Jesus uses this occasion to bless Peter, who represents all the disciples but also has a unique role to play in the founding of the new community. Peter is blessed not because of a personal insight but because God revealed to him who Jesus is. Peter is the rock on which Jesus will build the Church.

### **June 29, 2025 – Saint Peter and Saint Paul, Apostles**

Today's readings take us back to the basics, inviting us to reflect honestly on our deepest priorities in life. In the second reading, from Galatians, St Paul reminds us of the essence of the Christian life. "For the whole law is fulfilled in one statement, namely, you shall love your neighbor as yourself." Just a few verses later Paul points out why this simple command is so challenging to live out. "The flesh has desires against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; these are opposed to each other, so that you may not do what you want." Isn't that the truth!

Overcoming our tendency toward selfishness while striving to put Christ and others ahead of ourselves is a daily internal battle. But do not be afraid to give the best of yourself and your gifts to Christ. He deserves nothing less. And this way of life, while challenging, will be characterized by a joy and peace that only comes from giving Him an unqualified "yes!"

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**ST. THERESE CHURCH SUMMER BASKET & BURGER BASH** – On July 19<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 PM –8:00 PM & on July 20<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 AM-3:00 PM at the Social Hall at 531 Decker Ave. Live Entertainment from Desperados on Saturday from 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM. There will be a Themed Basket Drawing held on Sunday @ 3:00 PM. Craft/Bistro Style Burgers; Pulled Pork Sandwiches, Pizza- Fresh Cut Fries, Water - Soda - Beer – Basket Tickets sold at the Door.

**YOUNG ADULT GROUP (18-39)** – On July 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM we are hosting a young adult and young family outdoor Mass and picnic at Greenhouse Park pavilion six. All young adults (18-39) and young families with their children are invited to join us for faith and fellowship! For more information contact Geoffrey Stumpo at (814) 659-7415 or [geoffstumpo@gmail.com](mailto:geoffstumpo@gmail.com).

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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, 193<sup>rd</sup> Special Operations Wing; Lt. Col Steven Thomas, USAF, deploying to the Middle East; Captain Colin Harrington, US Army, Bethesda, MD; 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Kasey Meredith, USMC, Camp Lejeune, NC; Cpl. Aunna Yingling, US Army; Petty Officer 2<sup>nd</sup> Class, Gage Pollino, US Navy; Pvt. 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

