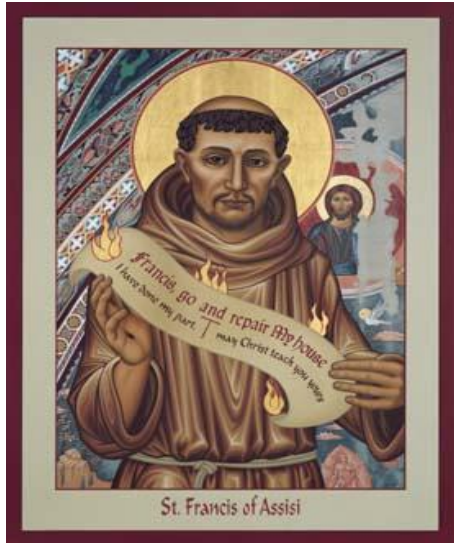


July 20, 2025  
16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

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@atlanticbbn.net](mailto:sfassisich@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

**Pilgrimage to Washington, DC to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception - October 17, 2025**

**Important Notice:** We are beginning to take reservations for the Buses traveling to Washington DC for the Jubilee 2025 Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on **Tuesday, July 15th at 10:00 AM. The cost of the Bus is \$50.00 per person and includes the tip for the bus driver. The bus will depart at EXACTLY 6:30 AM from the HOME DEPOT parking lot, Galleria Extension Drive in Johnstown. ONLY 3 BUSES with 150 SEATS are available.**

**Reservations will be taken on a first come first serve basis. To reserve a seat (s) and make payment to Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, please call Catherine Bennett, Secretary at 814-536-6110, x1. You are advised to CARPOOL to the HOME DEPOT because of limited parking. More information and an itinerary for the day will be distributed closer to the event. Please call as soon as possible because seats will fill up fast and these are the only buses reserved for the Johnstown area.**

**ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC** – Will be held at ACRP grounds at 34 Knox Street in Tanneryville on Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 AM – 6:00 PM with Mass at 12 Noon. Anyone that is able to help with cooking and packing things to take to the picnic, please come to the Hall on Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM.

**FRANCIS UPCOMING FUNDRAISING EVENTS** – St. Francis Annual Church Picnic will be held on Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup>. **Our upcoming fall Fish Fries will be on Friday, September 26<sup>th</sup> and Friday, October 24<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 8th. Cinnamon Rolls will be sold near Thanksgiving!

**BASKETS NEEDED FOR CHURCH PICNIC** – Baskets are requested for our Annual Parish Picnic and may be brought to the Chapel area during weekend Masses. **PLEASE DO NOT DONATE ANY BASKETS WITH ALCOHOL/LIQUOR IN THEM.** For information contact Georgetta Labuda at 814-535-4251 or Gale Bala at 814-279-2195

**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: 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.

**CLASS OF 2025 MASS WITH BISHOP MARK** – Bishop Mark invites all High School graduates of the Diocese to an Outdoor Mass at Our Lady of the Alleghenies Shrine in Loretto on Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 PM. There will be a special blessing and gift for all graduates!

**VINCENT DE PAUL SOUP KITCHEN VOLUNTEERS** – Parish Council is asking for volunteers to help with the St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen. St. Francis is volunteering on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month. We are asking for 6 volunteers for the next date, **Monday, July 28<sup>th</sup>**. There is a sign-up sheet in the Main Vestibule.

**CONTRIBUTIONS LAST WEEK** – Loose – \$161.75; Adults – \$2,143.50; Monthly – \$190.00; Candles – \$104.00; Donation – \$110.00; Online Giving – \$235.00 – Total Collection – \$2,944.25

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

## **BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING**

The story of Jesus in the home of Martha and Mary complements the story of the Good Samaritan, which immediately precedes it in Luke's Gospel. Both stories are unique to Luke. The story of the Samaritan opens with the words "a certain man." Today's reading opens with the words "a certain woman." The Samaritan is an example of how a disciple should see and act. Mary is an example of how a disciple should listen. Mary, a woman, is a marginalized person in society, like the Samaritan. Both do what is not expected of them. As a woman, Mary would be expected, like Martha, to prepare hospitality for a guest. Here again Jesus breaks with the social conventions of His time. Just as a Samaritan would not be a model for neighborliness, so a woman would not sit with the men around the feet of a teacher.

Both stories exemplify how a disciple is to fulfill the dual command which begins chapter 10—love of God (Mary) and love of neighbor (the Samaritan). These are the two essentials of life in the Kingdom. By using the examples of a Samaritan and a woman, however, Jesus is saying something more. Social codes and boundaries were strict in Jesus' time. Yet to love God with all one's heart and one's neighbor requires breaking those rules. The Kingdom of God is a society without distinctions and boundaries between its members. It is a society that requires times for seeing and doing and also times for listening and learning at the feet of a teacher.

### **July 20, 2025 – 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Today's readings are chock full of inspiration for living a stewardship way of life, starting with our first reading, from Genesis. Here we see the stewardship concept of hospitality at work as Abraham offers a generous welcome to three mysterious men who appear at the entrance to his tent. Some Church Fathers hold that the three men are an early symbol of our Triune God; others that the three are angels. In any case, Abraham welcomes them warmly in true steward-ship hospitality, offering them a good meal and some cool water with which to refresh themselves. In return for his generosity, one of the three men promises that Abraham's elderly wife would miraculously give birth to a son, a promise which indeed comes true.

In the week ahead, let's examine how well we show "hospitality" to our Lord by putting Him first through our stewardship of time. If you do not have a daily habit of prayer, commit to five minutes for the next seven days. If you are already in the habit of daily prayer, make sure you are listening at least as much as speaking. Either way, you will be blessed. What a privilege to be His stewards!

---

**PUBLIC ROSARY** – Praying for our Blessed Virgin Mary's Intercession for Peace in our World Thursday, August 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM at St. Clement Church. Also on Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 Noon at Central Park, Downtown Johnstown.

**THEOLOGY ON TAP – YOUNG ADULT GROUP (18-39)** – Our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Mass and Picnic at Greenhouse Park was a success with 20+ in attendance including children and 3 Catholic Priests from the Roman and Byzantine Rites. Theology on Tap is a week early in July with Fr. Basil Cole OP from Washington DC joining us on July 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Boulevard Grill at 6pm. August 8<sup>th</sup> is a Rosary and Bonfire at Greenhouse Park at 6pm, and August 9<sup>th</sup> at 9am is our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Hike at Laurel Highlands Trail Route 56 Trailhead. 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.

**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.

=====

**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 Rovon 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; Major 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; 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?

=====

**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.

