

August 10, 2025
19th 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 – 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

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

**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 **October 17th**. **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 CARPPOOL 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.

SPECIAL THANKS to Dave and Fran King for the fabulous arrangements to see Noah at Sight & Sound in Lancaster, PA!

THANK YOU TO KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ALL SAINTS ASSEMBLY – For their generous donation to help with the repair of our A/C system in the Church.

ANNUAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY LITURGIES – Bishop Mark Bartchak and the Family Life Office cordially invite all couples celebrating **1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60+ years of marriage in 2025** (and their families) to attend the **Annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgy**. Couples may attend Sunday, **September 21** in **ALTOONA** at Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament or Sunday, **September 28** in **JOHNSTOWN** at St. John Gualbert Cathedral. Both locations are handicap accessible. Liturgies in each location begin at **2:00 p.m.** Most Rev. Bishop Mark will be the celebrant and homilist at each celebration. Refreshments/snacks will be available after the mass for anniversary couples and their families. **Reservations must be made through your parish for either celebration by Friday, September 12th.**

SPECIAL 2ND COLLECTION – Due to the unexpected major expense to fix the AC unit in the Church, there will be a 2nd collection this weekend to help offset the expenditure. **THANK YOU TO EVERYONE AND GOD BLESS!**

FRANCIS UPCOMING FUNDRAISING EVENTS – **Our upcoming fall Fish Fries will be on Friday, September 26th and Friday, October 24th!** Fundraising Committee is selling a \$10 ticket, they are on sale now to help 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!

25% OFF SHOPPING PASS FOR BOSCOV'S – The Parish is selling Boscov's Shopping passes for \$5.00 to get 25% off on the shopping day of October 22nd. All proceeds go to the Church!! Please help out our Parish and pick one or more up before Mass!

FATIMA DEVOTIONS – The Franciscan Friars, T.O.R., from Loretto, invite you to participate with them in celebrating the Fatima Devotions on Wednesday, August 13th at 6:30 PM at the Sunken Gardens (In case of inclement weather, they will be at the Immaculate Conception Chapel on the campus of St. Francis University). The presider will be Fr. David Dodd, T.O.R. **Bring a Friend!**

MEMORIAL MASS FOR FR. MICHAEL J. MCGIVNEY – Please join your Brother Knights of Council 467 for a commemorative Mass in support for the Canonization of Blessed Michael J. McGivney, the founder of the Knights of Columbus in 1882. Mass will be held at St. John Gualbert in Johnstown on August 13th at 5:00 PM, followed by a small reception at the St. John Gualbert Activity Center. Food and drinks will be provided. For additional information please contact Council 467 Grand Knight Philip Brezovic at (814)410-3143.

CONTRIBUTIONS LAST WEEK – Loose – \$148.00; Adults – \$2,203.75; Monthly – \$1,067.00; Candles – \$144.00; Assumption – \$15.00; Online Giving – \$360.00 – Total Collection – \$3,937.75

BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING

Jesus' instructions on how to be ready for the coming judgment continue in the stories and sayings found in today's Gospel. We are not to be like the greedy rich man in last Sunday's Gospel who planned to store his great harvest in barns rather than share it. We are, rather, to share our wealth with those in need. The antidote for the anxiety brought on by the coming judgment is to relinquish our possessions and provide for the needs of others. Our treasure will be in heaven where it will not wear out or be destroyed.

The other major way to be ready for the coming judgment is to be watchful. In Luke's Gospel, Jesus tells a parable about watchfulness to begin making this point. We must be like servants waiting for the Master's return from a wedding banquet, which, even now, can last for a few days in the Middle East. We must be watchful so that even if the master comes after midnight, we will be ready for Him. This is what the coming of the Son of Man will be like. Peter asks if this parable is meant for the Apostles or for the large crowd that has gathered to listen to Jesus. Without answering Peter's question, Jesus responds with another parable about servants awaiting the return of their Master. It begins with a question: "Who, then, is the faithful and prudent steward whom the Master will put in charge of His servants to distribute the food allowance at the proper time?" This parable adds to the theme of watchfulness; it explains how to wait and reminds us of the reward for the faithful follower at the heavenly banquet after the judgment. If it is addressed to the Apostles, then it could also be addressed to leadership in the early Church. Either way, the parables reminds us that we should be found doing our jobs when the master arrives. If we are doing our jobs, our reward will be great. But if we relax, neglect our duties, and begin to act like the greedy rich man—eating, drinking, and making merry—we will not have a place in the Kingdom. Watchfulness means living in such a consistently moral and obedient way that we are always ready to give an account to God of how we have lived.

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Whether you are just beginning your stewardship journey or have been living a stewardship way of life for years, today's readings invite us to ask ourselves two potentially life-changing questions.

The first question is: "What do you treasure?" Of course, we all know the 'right' answer to this question – we treasure our Faith, our family and our friendships. But Jesus tells us in the Gospel passage from Luke how we can discover the real answer to this question. He says, "For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be." To bring to light what we truly treasure in life, we can ask ourselves, "Where do I spend the majority of my energy, my thoughts, my time, and my money?"

The second question today's readings ask is: "What would you do if you were not afraid?" To put it another way, what would you do if you had radical faith in God? In the Gospel, Jesus tells us plainly, "Do not be afraid any longer, little flock, for your Father is pleased to give you the Kingdom." If our perfect Father is pleased to offer us nothing less than His Son right now, and Heaven eventually, then what on earth have we to be afraid of?

There is so much to think about this week. Let's ask ourselves what we really treasure, and then take a bold risk – faith-filled and unafraid – to show our gratitude to God for all that He has given to us.

MARIANNA'S SUB, PIZZA AND SALSA SALE – The Fund-Raising Committee is again having a Sub and Pizza Sale and now will be including the NEW delicious Salsa! Hope you tried some at the picnic. Be the first in our area to get this new item. Flavors are COWBOY- (mild, with black beans and corn), CLASSIC-(medium, tomatoes, peppers and onions) and MPH- (bold-sweet mango, pineapple and habanero). My favorite, full of flavor and not really hot! Order forms are at the doors of the church. Orders are due Sunday Sept. 7th and pick-up is Friday, Sept. 19th from 5-7 pm. Please note the new pick-up day and time. Payment is due with the order. Thank you for your continued support of our committee and our church!

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

**The Blessed Mother Candle will burn for the month of August for Joseph Torchia for his birthday & health.
Love, Family**

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 Rován 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; **Major Colin Harrington**, US Army, Bethesda, MD; **2nd 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.; **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.

