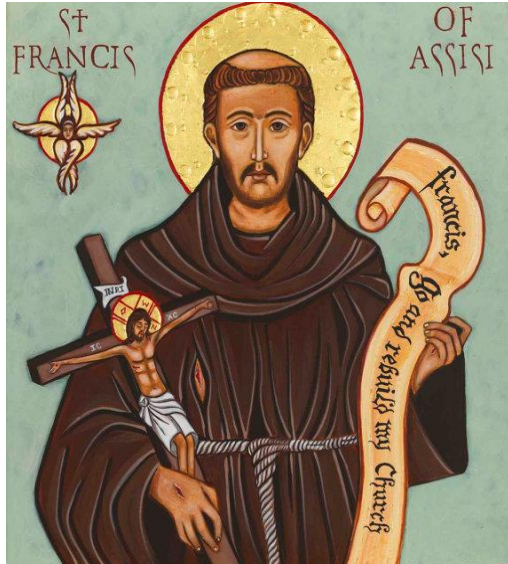


**October 12, 2025**  
**28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**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](#)**  
**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** 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 (OCIA)** - 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 - 12 Noon followed by Benediction

**Rosary Society** - First Monday of the Month - 3:00PM in the Church

**Men's Club** - First Thursday of the Month - 6:30PM in the Activity Center

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED** – On Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup> in Observance of Columbus Day!

**PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS** – The Family and Friends of **+Frank Slezak**, who was laid to rest last week. Welcoming God receive from our hand the Loved Ones we return to You.

**HELP HOSS'S HELP US** – On November 15<sup>th</sup>, Hoss's will donate a portion of the money you spend on your meal to Saint Francis Church! See insert for more details. If you have any questions please contact David Hammer at (814)243-4816.

**HITMIX MUSIC BINGO** – Will be held on **Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>** at St. Francis Activity Center at 134 Barron Avenue. Doors open at 5:00PM with first game beginning at 7:00PM. Tickets are \$20 each which includes food and non-alcoholic beverages, one bingo card for each game, and cash prizes every half hour. Also available for purchase are extra bingo cards, Qualifiers, 50/50, chances on baskets and \$10 beer bracelets. Cash bar. **NO OUTSIDE ALCOHOL PERMITTED.** Must be 18 or older to participate! Please contact Fran King at 814-536-3667



**DONATIONS OF BASKETS OR ITEMS FOR BASKETS NEEDED** – Baskets or items for baskets are needed for our Music Bingo prior to November 8<sup>th</sup>. Donations can be left in the Chapel Area of the Church or contact Carolyn at (814)421-6016. Help us make this a huge success!

**GOB ICING** – will be made on **Tuesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>** beginning at **7:00 AM**. Gobs will be filled on **Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> from 8:00AM until 10:00AM**. All help is greatly appreciated.

**ST. THERESE CHURCH OKTOBERFEST** – Upper Decker Avenue, October 11<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM and October 12<sup>th</sup> from 11:00Am – 2:00 PM. **Menu:** German Potato Salad, Haluski, Hot Dog/Sauerkraut, Kolbassi, Pigs in the Blanket, Pierogi's & assorted pies and German Apple Strudel. **Entertainment:** Saturday from 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM Wheel Raffle and Sunday at 2:00 PM is Themed Basket Drawing.

**ALL SOULS** – If you would like to have a picture of a deceased loved one placed in the Sanctuary area for All Soul's Day, please bring the picture to the Parish Office or the Church. All photos must be received no later than Monday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. Please include the name of the deceased and your name and phone number with the picture(s) you are bringing.

**GRIEF HEALS WITH KINDNESS PRESENTATION** – St. Benedict Parish, 2310 Bedford Street, Johnstown will be presenting a Community-Wide Grief Presentation "Grief Heals with Kindness". This one-day event will be held at 3 P.M. on Sunday, October 26, 2025. Come and discover the stages of grief and the corresponding forms of caregiving for each stage. This workshop will emphasize on the importance of expressing one's feelings and needs to others, as well as encouraging them to make decisions about activities in which to participate, who to be with and how to regain a sense of control. Adults in the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese are welcome to attend. Tickets are not required. For more information contact Deacon Michael Russo at 814-288-3036 or by email at [dcmlr@icloud.com](mailto:dcmlr@icloud.com)

**CONTRIBUTIONS LAST WEEK** – Loose – \$125.00; Adults – \$2,404.00; Monthly – \$593.00; Candles – \$106.00; St. Vincent De Paul – \$31.00; Retired Priest Medical – \$3.00; Assumption – \$2.00; All Souls – \$10.00; Cemetery – \$106.00; Online Giving – \$440.00 – Total Collection – \$3,820.00

## **BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING**

Today we hear about how Jesus, continuing on His journey to Jerusalem, heals 10 lepers. This story is a lesson about Faith and reminds us that Faith is sometimes found in unlikely places. Ten people afflicted with leprosy cry out to Jesus. Struck with pity, Jesus heals all 10. However, only one is described as glorifying God and returning to thank Jesus. The one who returns is a Samaritan, a foreigner. In the Jewish circles in which Jesus lived, Samaritans were looked down upon because of the differences between the two communities in their observance of Judaism. It is significant, therefore, that Jesus commends the Samaritan for his faith, which has been his salvation.

Throughout Luke's Gospel, Faith is found in surprising places.

Another lesson for us in this Gospel has to do with salvation. All 10 of the lepers were given the gift of healing, but in his gratitude to God for this gift, the Samaritan found salvation. Our salvation is found in recognizing the gifts we have been given and knowing to Whom we must offer our thanks.

### **October 12, 2025 – 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Gratitude is the key to a stewardship way of life. Today's readings demonstrate the power and vital importance of gratitude in the life of the Christian disciple, for gratitude leads us to worship God Who offers us salvation.

The truth is that our very lives and every breath we take are His gifts to us. But we can get so caught up in the stresses and distractions of daily life that we lose touch with this truth. Gratitude begins within our minds and hearts when we take the time to recognize how blessed we truly are and when we have the humility to recognize where these blessings come from – our merciful and loving God.

The Samaritan from our Gospel today reacts to his gift of healing in much the same way as Namaan from our First Reading, and demonstrates the proper response to our loving God. Recognizing what he had just received from the Lord, he “returned, glorifying God in a loud voice; and he fell at the feet of Jesus and thanked Him.” He was grateful for what God had done for him and this gratitude led to worship.

---

**The West End Improvement Group will host the Annual Basket Party.** Once again, this year it will be a 2 day event, with a walk-through on Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup> from 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM. Tickets are \$5.00. Saturday, there will be baked goods for sale, including gobs. Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, doors will open at 11:00 AM and drawing will begin at 1:00PM. Tickets are \$10.00 which includes lunch. This year will include qualifiers/pull tabs, in addition to 50/50, Lottery Tree, etc. and over 135 baskets. You do NOT need to be present to win. Please join us at St. Therese Social Hall, 536 Decker Avenue in the West End. Proceeds benefit surveillance camera upgrades, flowers, gardens, and community projects. Any questions or to donate a basket, please call (814)248-8989 or (814)322-5558.

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

**The Blessed Mother Candle will burn for the month of October for Special Intention – From: Kathy Zierer**

**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.

=====

**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; **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.

