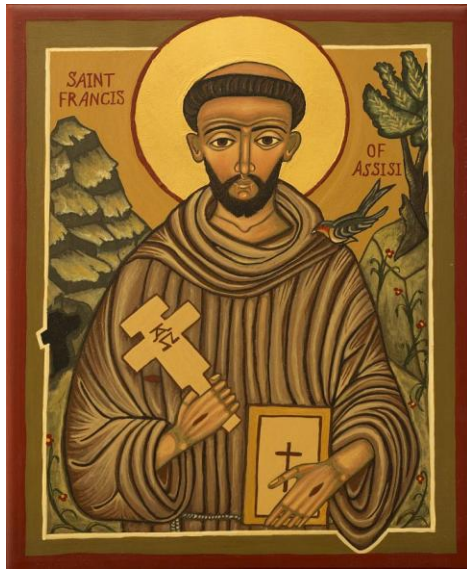


October 5, 2025
27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
THE FAITH COMMUNITY OF
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

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
Facebook – St Francis of Assisi Church
Oremus Ministry (Prayer Chain) – 814-539-1632
Web Site: <http://www.stfrancisofassisijsittown.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

WITH THE VARIOUS NEGATIVE SITUATIONS HAPPENING IN OUR COUNTRY, 2 INDIVIDUALS STAND OUT IN THEIR RESPONSE TO THESE VARIOUS TRAGEDIES: Phillip Cotter, a Clio, MI resident and member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Grand Blanc, MI, that was attacked on Sunday, September 28, 2025, stated: "I don't know what God has planned for us, but I trust Him." And +Charlie Kirk was asked what he wanted to be remembered for said: "Courage for my Faith!" Now these 2 responses are worth remembering!

THANK YOU – To all who helped to make our Fish Fry a success! And Thank you to all those who donated Baked Goods for our first time dessert table! Our Patrons were delighted with it and so it will be a part of all of our future Fish Frys! Once again, we will be calling on your generosity in the future! We appreciate all of the help from our Parishioners and family members throughout the week! Fish Fry Committee

HITMIX MUSIC BINGO – Will be held on **Saturday, November 8th** 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 8th. 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!

ROSARY SOCIETY will meet on Monday, October 6th at 3:00PM. Please join us for Rosary, Reflection and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

AMERICAN THEATRE CHRISTMAS SHOW BUS TRIP – St. Francis of Assisi will be taking a bus trip on Friday, November 21st to see the 2025 Christmas Show "Deck the Halls". Price is \$135.00 per person and includes the show and bus. Dinner is on your own at Cracker Barrel. **THIS IS THE LAST WEEK TO REGISTER FOR THE TRIP.** Please contact Fran King at (814)536-3667.

CONTRIBUTIONS LAST WEEK – Loose – \$186.00; Adults – \$2,281.00; Monthly – \$200.00; Candles – \$187.00; St. Vincent De Paul – \$157.00; Retired Priest Medical – \$40.00; Donation – \$60.00; Online Giving – \$235.00 – Total Collection – \$3,346.00

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 27th. Please include the name of the deceased and your name and phone number with the picture(s) you are bringing.

JUBILEE EXPRESSION OF MUSIC – You are invited to Saint John Gualbert Cathedral, Johnstown on Sunday, October 5th for a Jubilee Expression of Music at 2:00 p.m. There will be choirs from our local Catholic High Schools and Community Churches. Before and following the concert In the Zion Lutheran Hall next door you can view the Expressions of Hope Art and Photo display and refreshments.

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

BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING

In today's Gospel we hear Jesus teach about Faith and service to God. The context is a continuing dialogue between Jesus and His followers about what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. Jesus has just finished an instruction on sin and forgiveness. There are two related teachings that Jesus offers to His Disciples when they cry out for an increase in Faith. The first is the familiar reminder that faith, even just a little, will enable the followers of Jesus to do wondrous things. But this uplifting and inspiring teaching is quickly followed by the second teaching, a caution about knowing one's place in God's plans. The Disciples of Jesus are to understand themselves as servants to God and His plans. Even when God works wonders through us, with our mustard seed-sized faith, we must not seek praise. Our participation in God's plans is God's grace to us—nothing more, nothing less. When we are graced enough to cooperate with God, the work we do is nothing more than our obligation to God as faithful stewards. And yet, our Faith enables us to believe that what we have offered in service to God, as His servants, can be made to produce a hundredfold.

October 5, 2025 – 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Our readings today show us that living a stewardship way of life - that is, a life focused on serving God and His Kingdom - is not easy. They also show us that our lives belong to God, not to us and that God will indeed bring about the fulfillment of His kingdom. We just need to have Faith that He can do it and commit to our small part in His grand design.

Living our lives in His service is very much our responsibility, as Jesus explains through the parable of the unprofitable servant. Our Lord describes a scene in which a servant has just come in from tending to the master's affairs and asks whether it would be reasonable for the master to begin waiting on his servant. Of course it would not be reasonable. The servant would be expected to continue to serve his master until he has completed the work the master has given him that day. Jesus says we should have this same attitude before God. The time, talents, and treasure entrusted to us are all God's. Our very lives belong to God. Whatever we do on God's behalf with our lives and gifts is imply our God-given responsibility.

The stewardship way of life makes the privilege and responsibility of serving Christ and His kingdom a reality.

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 1st from 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM. Tickets are \$5.00. Saturday, there will be baked goods for sale, including gobs. Sunday, November 2nd, 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.

THINKING OF ATTENDING THE MARIAN CELEBRATION WITH BISHOP MARK AT ST. BENEDICT CHURCH ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5 AT 3:00 PM? IT IS THE MONTH OF THE ROSARY!

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 Guarino, 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.

