

November 23, 2025
Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

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@atlanticbbs.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 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 (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 will be closing at 12 Noon on Wednesday, November 26th for Thanksgiving.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER – St. Francis Parish Office will follow the Johnstown School District’s and/or Bishop McCort’s schedule. If there is a 2 hour delay, the Parish Office will open 2 hours late (11:00 AM), and all meetings/ activities will take place. If school is closed or has a virtual/remote learning day the Parish Office will be closed and all meetings/activities will be cancelled. If there is an unscheduled early dismissal the Parish Office will close early and all meetings/activities will be cancelled. Please note, scheduled Mass WILL BE celebrated regardless.

THANK YOU – For the 2nd collection this past weekend for the general upkeep and maintenance of the Parish Complex. The collection totaled \$667. It is truly appreciated!
Also, **THANK YOU TO DAVID HAMMER** for securing the special % of the bill at Hoss’s for our Parish!!

ANNUAL CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PARTY – We will be holding our Annual Children’s Christmas Party on **December 7th** at the Activity Building from 1-3PM. Children up to age 12 are welcome to join. Sign-up sheet is in the Vestibule. Last day for sign-ups is November 30th. If anyone is willing to donate any cookies or if there are any volunteers who would like to help out, or any high school students who need service hours, please contact Heather at (814)243-0715.

ST. FRANCIS MEN’S CLUB 2026 LOTTERY CALENDARS – The Men’s Club is offering 2026 Lottery Calendars for sale in the main vestibule before and after each weekend Mass. Each calendar costs \$25.00 and makes an excellent Christmas gift! Calendars will be available through Christmas or while supplies last.

THE FRANCISCAN FRIARS, TOR. PROVINCE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION – will celebrate their 100th Anniversary and would love for you to join in the jubilee celebration on Saturday, December 6th beginning with a Celebration of the Eucharist at Our Lady of Mount Carmel at 4:00 PM, with dinner and dancing following at 6:00 PM at Altoona Grand Hotel. The cost is \$40.00 per person, includes a buffet dinner, drink ticket, dance, silent auction, and door prize entry. Please RSVP by Mon., Nov. 24 at 814-695-3802. Your spot will not be reserved without payment.

CONTRIBUTIONS LAST WEEK – Loose – \$290.00; Adults – \$1,558.00; Candles – \$52.00; Online Giving – \$235.00 – Total Collection – \$2,135.00

The Sanctuary Candle will burn for the week of November 9th – 15th for Walter & Josephine Ludwig, From: Joan Ludwig

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

The Sacred Heart Candle will burn for the month of November for the Perpetual Soul of +Alfred Strozak, From: Wife, Mary Strozak

BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING

Today as a Church, we conclude our Liturgical Year and celebrate the Feast of Christ the King. The Gospel we proclaim shows the great mystery of our Faith: In the moment of His Crucifixion, Jesus is shown to be King and Savior of all.

Luke's Gospel has been loaded with surprises: the poor are rich, sinners find salvation, the Kingdom of God is found in our midst. Here we see the greatest surprise of all. We are confronted with the crucified Jesus, whom Faith tells us is King and Savior of all. The irony is that the inscription placed on the Cross, perhaps in mockery, contains the profoundest of truth. As the leaders jeer, the thief crucified by His side recognizes Jesus as Messiah and King, and finds Salvation.

Jesus is King, but not the kind of king we might have imagined or expected. His Kingship was hidden from many of His contemporaries, but those who had the eyes of Faith were able to see. As modern disciples of Jesus, we, too, struggle at times to recognize Jesus as King. Today's Gospel invites us to make our own judgment. With eyes of Faith, we, too, recognize that Jesus, the crucified One, is indeed King and Savior of all.

NOVEMBER 23, 2025 – OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

On this Feast of Christ the King, our readings show us that we serve the greatest of Kings, Who is at the same time the humblest of Kings. Christ is the perfect model of servant leadership. And what an indescribable privilege that He has called us to be servant leaders – stewards in the work of advancing His Kingdom.

What powerful lessons this King teaches us from the Cross. We learn that true leadership is displayed in emptying ourselves for others; that true greatness is displayed by way of humility; that none of us is worthy of the call to stewardship of His kingdom but that all of us, like the good thief, are welcomed and invited to take up this call. Following in His footsteps will involve suffering and sacrifice. Yet how can we say no to the King Who loves us so completely and promises that His faithful stewards will one day be with Him in Paradise?

ST. CLEMENT CHURCH PRESENT SHADOW STATIONS OF THE NATIVITY – A New Advent Tradition: Experience the “Shadow Stations of the Nativity, a Journey of Hope” Presented by Parishioners. Saturday, November 29th following 4:00PM Mass at St. Clement Church Social Hall. Cost is \$10.00 per person and enjoy a dinner of ham, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll, & dessert. Show will begin after dinner at 7:00PM. Get your ticket after any of the weekend Masses, or at the St. Clement Church Office from Monday – Friday 8:00AM – 3:00PM. *Reservations will be taken for those who cannot use the stairs to the social hall, and would like their dinner to be served in the classroom* Call the Church office at 814-255-4422.

BISHOP MCCORT CRUSHERS HOCKEY – is sponsoring their Cash Calendar Ticket. Winners determined by the PA. Lottery evening daily number. The cost is \$25.00 per ticket. The ticket runs January 1 thru June 30, 2026. Only 500 calendars sold. Reach out to your favorite Bishop McCort Hockey player or email ADOLGAS287@gmail.com.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

James Edward Adams, Kathryn Barczak, James Bauer, John Bauer, Patricia Bauer, Deacon Bruce Becker, Sally Becker, Galynn Brady, Sister Carol Jean Czynnik, 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 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 at Camp Lejeune, NC; **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.

