

February 8, 2026
5th 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
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 CLOSED – On Monday, February 16th in Observance of President’s Day!

UPCOMING EVENTS – The St. Francis Fundraising Committee will be selling a \$10 ticket to go off of the Pa Lottery Daily Evening Number. It will be a two-day ticket with a giveaway of \$2,000. More information in the coming weeks. This ticket will help defray expenses for the upcoming Music Bingo event in April. Tickets will soon be available before and after Masses. **Music Bingo coming on Saturday, April 25th. Save this date!** More information available soon.



ST. FRANCIS FISH FRY – St. Francis of Assisi Parish will have a Fish Fry on **Ash Wednesday, February 18th** at the Activity Center, corner of D Street and Barron Avenue. **A LUNCH SPECIAL** (Fried Fish Sandwich and French Fries, no substitutions) will be offered from **11AM until 1:00PM (Take Out Only)**. The full menu will be served from 2:00PM – 6:00PM, eat in or take out. Orders for lunch and dinner will be taken from 9:00AM until 1:00PM on Wednesday, February 18th by calling 814-539-3518. We welcome walk-ins, but strongly suggest that orders be placed in advance. Meals will be served while supplies last. All help is greatly appreciated. ****DEBIT/CREDIT CARDS ARE ACCEPTED!!****



LENTEN RICE BOWLS – The Lenten Rice Bowls are in this weekend’s Bulletin. This program highlights how families around the world and in our own local community are working hard to provide nutritious food for their children, build sustainable livelihoods and create healthy and thriving futures.

PUBLIC ROSARY – Praying for the Salvation of Souls and for the Sick on Thursday, February 12th at 6:30 PM at ST. CLEMENT CHURCH. Also on Saturday, February 14th at 12 NOON at ST. JOHN GUALBERT CATHEDRAL, Downtown Johnstown, St. Anne Shrine.

WAY OF THE CROSS IN THE SHADOWS – Join us on Friday, February 20th, at 6:30pm, at St. Clement Church, as we pray these unique stations. Our program uses live portrayers using their shadows to trace Jesus' steps through the streets of Jerusalem to Calvary. You will feel transported back in time and feel present with Jesus on his difficult journey. Begin your Lenten journey with us!

CONTRIBUTIONS LAST WEEK – Loose – \$164.00; Adults – \$2,148.00; Monthly – \$851.00; Candles – \$131.00; St. Vincent De Paul – \$54.00; Mandeville – \$30.00; Online Giving - \$365.00 – Total Collection - \$3,743.00

The Blessed Mother Candle will burn for the month of February for Special Intentions From: Kathy Zierer.

The Sanctuary Candle will burn for the month of February for – Special Intentions for 2 Dear Friends.

The Holy Family Candle will burn for the month of February for – Special Intentions for Margaret & Pansy Scott.

The St. Therese Candle will burn for the week of February 1 – 7 for Nicki Davis for strength.

The Sacred Heart Candle will burn February 8 – 14 for James Sr. & LeAnn Golby.

BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING

Following upon the teaching of the [Beatitudes](#), Jesus uses the now familiar metaphors of salt and light to describe the life of discipleship. We take salt and light for granted in our society, but these commodities were more precious in ancient cultures. Just as now, salt was used in Jesus' time for flavoring, as a preservative, and as a healing agent. Similarly, the widespread use of electricity in the modern world makes us less aware of the value and importance of light in our lives. (unless there is a power outage)

Still, our familiarity with this passage from Matthew's Gospel speaks well to the abiding power of the imagery that Jesus presented. Jesus' call to be salt for the earth and light for the world powerfully states our mission as Church and as Christians. Our commitment to social justice flows from the exhortation that Jesus gives us in today's Gospel. Some of the activities that this commitment leads us to are given more concrete expression as the Corporal and Spiritual [Works of Mercy](#). When we feed the hungry, clothe the naked, console those who mourn, and so on, we show ourselves to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. When we do these things with the community of faith, the Church, we are indeed acting as "a city set on a mountain" that cannot be hidden!

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Today's readings are part pep talk and part marching orders for us as Christian stewards. They offer wonderfully clear guidance on what matters most to God in the way we prioritize our lives and the way He intends for us to use the gifts He has given us.

The first reading, from the prophet Isaiah, gives us very straightforward instructions: "Thus says the Lord: Share your bread with the hungry, shelter the oppressed, and the homeless; clothe the naked when you see them, and do not turn your back on your own." The Lord gives no wiggle room here – care for our brothers and sisters in need is a "must-do" for the Christian steward. Note, too, that these instructions require action – to share, to shelter, to clothe, and to hang in there with your family members, even the demanding ones.

Our Gospel passage, from Matthew, sends us out on our stewardship way with a bang as Jesus declares to us, His disciples, that we are the "salt of the earth" and the "light of the world." But, He adds, salt no longer gives flavor if allowed to go stale, and light cannot bring its blessed brightness if left hidden. Therefore we must act! We must live our lives so that others will see the things that we do – the ways that we serve others, care for the vulnerable, prioritize our family relationships, and, above all, our love for God – and then give Him glory!

CENTRAL CITY CASH BASH – Queen of Angels Parish in Central City will host a "Cash Bash Elimination Tournament" on Saturday February 14TH. Every ticket provides entrance to a high-spirited raffle full of suspense, surprises, and cash prize drawings. Additionally, the evening includes great food and an open bar. Every dollar raised goes toward supporting the parish's work. Doors (and bar) open at 5:00 PM with the drawing starting at 6:00 PM at the parish activity center (738 Sunshine Ave, Central City). Tickets are \$25 and include your number, food, and drink. You won't want to miss out on what promises to be an enjoyable evening – reserve your ticket now by calling the parish office (814) 754-5224 or emailing parish secretary Maggie Adomnik at madomnik@dioceseaj.org. A far more exciting Valentines Day date than sitting at a stuffy overpriced restaurant!

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, Elsie Cable, Sister Carol Jean Czzyrnik, 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.

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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 Rovon 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?

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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.

