

May 10, 2026
6th Sunday of Easter
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 – 814 - 254- 2942
Men's Club President – John Davis
Rosary Society – Cecilia Neiderer
Gabriel Project – 814-418-1813
DRE – Deacon Bruce Becker – 814-418-6754

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 – Parish Office will be closed on Thursday, May 14th in observance of the Holy Day of Obligation of Ascension Thursday. The Parish Office will reopen on Monday, May 18th.

THE PILGRIMAGE TO NATIONAL SHRINE IN WASHINGTON, D.C. ON OCTOBER 10, 2026, THE COST PER PERSON TO TAKE A BUS WOULD BE \$50.00/PER PERSON BASED ON 50 PEOPLE. EACH PERSON WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN SNACKS & DINNER.

GOB ICING – will be made on **Tuesday, May 12th** beginning at **7:00 AM**. Gobs will be filled on **Wednesday, March 13th from 8:00AM until 10:00AM**. All help is greatly appreciated.

THANK YOU – To everyone that helped out to make the Music Bingo a fun filled and successful event!!

SIGHT & SOUND TRIP TO SEE “JOSHUA” – We will be going to see “JOSHUA” on **Tuesday, August 25th for the 3:00 PM Show**. Reservations need to be made by June 1st. For more information, please contact Fran King at (814)536-3667.

MEET & GREET – All parishioners are invited to attend a Meet & Greet on **Wednesday, May 20 at 6:00 p.m. in the Activity Center**. This event provides an opportunity to meet fellow parishioners, members of the Finance Council, Parish Council, Fundraising Committee, Men’s Club, Gabriel Project, and the many individuals who serve in liturgical and support ministries. A brief overview of each ministry will be presented, along with information about available volunteer opportunities. We also welcome your questions and value your suggestions for continued improvement within our parish community. Beverages and light refreshments will be provided. There is a sign-up sheet in the main vestibule, please sign up so we have an approximate number for snack & refreshments. We look forward to seeing you there.

FINANCE COUNCIL OPPORTUNITY – We are seeking dedicated individuals with education or experience in financial management, business, administration, law, or property management to serve on our Parish Finance Council. This is a meaningful leadership opportunity that supports the long-term stewardship and mission of our Parish community. Finance Council members play a vital role in reviewing and approving the annual parish budget, monitoring income, expenditures, overall financial health, and offering guidance on construction and renovation projects. If you have skills in any of these areas, we would love to hear from you. Please contact the Parish Office at 814-539-1632 or Finance Council President, Teresa Thompson at 814-659-6798.

PUBLIC ROSARY – In Honor of Our Lady of Fatima on Thursday, May 21st at 6:30 PM at St. Clement Church located at 114 Lindberg Ave, Johnstown, PA 15905.

CONTRIBUTIONS LAST WEEK – Loose – \$253.00; Adults – \$2,132.00; Monthly – \$991.00; Candles – \$197.00; St. Vincent DePaul – \$32.00; Easter – \$50.00; Holy Thursday – \$5.00; Ascension – \$20.00; Mother’s Day – \$225.00; Cemetery – \$138.00; Initial – \$5.00; Online Giving – \$370.00 – Total Collection – \$4,418.00

The Blessed Mother Candle will burn for the week of May 10th – 16th for Marion Torchia & Mary Cononie – From: Children, Joseph & Paulette Torchia

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

BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING

Today's Gospel is a continuation of last week's Gospel: Jesus is speaking to His Disciples at the Last Supper. In today's reading Jesus offers encouragement to His Disciples, who will soon see Him Crucified. He reassures them that even though He will leave them, He will not abandon them. Instead He will send them the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, through whom the Disciples will continue to live in union with Jesus.

Jesus uses the term *Advocate* to describe the Holy Spirit, whom the Disciples will receive. Another word used to describe the Holy Spirit is *Paraclete*, a legal term meaning "one who offers defense for another." Note that Jesus says that He will send "another Advocate." Jesus Himself is the First Advocate, interceding for His Disciples with the Father.

In today's reading Jesus contrasts His impending departure with the permanence of the gift of the Holy Spirit. Jesus will leave to return to the Father, but the Holy Spirit will remain with the Disciples.

Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Disciples will come to know and appreciate the unity of the Son and the Father. They will also understand that they too participate in the communion between the Father and the Son: "On that day you will realize that I am in My Father and you are in Me and I in you" (John 14:20).

Today's reading is one example of the contrast that John's Gospel presents between the community of Disciples, to whom God will reveal Himself, and the unbelieving world, which will remain in darkness. The unbelieving world cannot accept the "Spirit of Truth," whom the Disciples will receive. Only through the Spirit will God's revelation and love be known.

May 10, 2026 - 6th Sunday of Easter

On this Sixth Sunday of Easter, our readings remind us Christian stewards of the importance and power of the Holy Spirit in our lives. They also teach us that love of God shows itself in concrete actions – this is precisely why the stewardship way of life is so necessary.

Throughout the Easter Season, our first readings, taken from the Act of the Apostles, have recounted the growth (and growing pains) of the early days of the Church. Today we read that the Samaritans had accepted the word of God, and while there was great rejoicing over this, they were still in need of more before they were fully empowered Disciples. The 'more' that they needed, was the Holy Spirit.

Today is a great opportunity, especially as we draw nearer to Pentecost, to begin to examine our relationship with the Holy Spirit. Do we make full use of all of the grace and power the Holy Spirit has for us in meeting the challenges of life?

MASS FOR WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS TO BE TELEVISED – Remember your loved ones on **Sunday, May 24, 2026 with a televised Mass Celebrated by Bishop Mark Bartchak at 11:00 AM on WATM ABC 23**. All spouses will be acknowledged and remembered at the Mass. All persons who have lost a spouse through death throughout the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese are invited to register by contacting the Family Life Office at 814-317-2643 or email familylife@dioceseaj.org. When registering, please give your **name, address, phone number and the name of your spoused who has passed away**. The last day to register is **Thursday, May 21, 2026**. The event is sponsored by the Diocesan Family Life Office and the Catholic Ministries Drive. Please be advised, a special broadcast of a sporting event on WATM ABC 23 may delay this broadcast. All names of loved ones will be seen during Communion.

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 Czynnik, Alicia Junghans, Rick McKinley, Rowen Ream, Alexandra Rice, Carly Rice, Doug Rice, Rose Rice, Gary Singel, Joanna Stone, Carol Sobocky, 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 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; **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 - Every Thursday from 11:00am to 12pm Noon we have a prayer vigil in front of the Planned Parenthood office in Johnstown, on Franklin Street. Please join us in prayer to end abortion.

Pope's Intention for the Month of April: For Priest's in crisis. Let us pray for Priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

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.

