

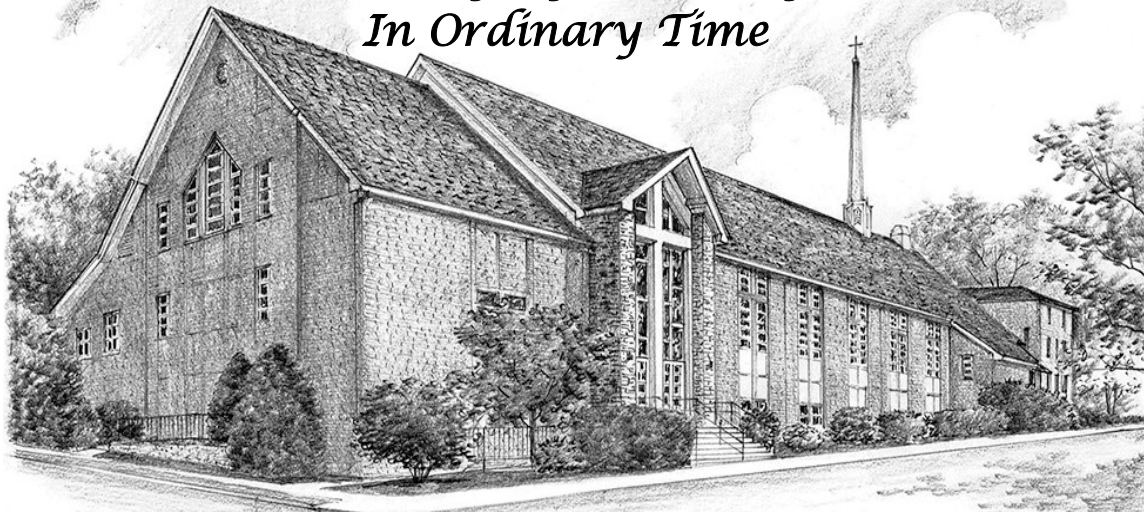
SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

1046 WEST CEDAR STREET - ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 18102
(610) 433-6102

WWW.STFRANCISALLENTOWN.ORG

FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM: @STFRANCISALLENTOWN

*September 20, 2026
Twenty Fifth Sunday
In Ordinary Time*



PASTOR

REVEREND RICHARD C. BRENSINGER, M. DIV.

MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY VIGIL: 4:30 PM
SUNDAY: 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM
DAILY: SEE MASS SCHEDULE
HOLY DAY: (VIGIL 7:00 PM) 8:00 AM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY: 3:15-4:00 PM
MONDAY: 6:15 PM - 6:45 PM
(BEFORE 7:00 PM MASS)
ANYTIME BY APPOINTMENT

ADORATION CHAPEL

PLEASE CONSIDER SPENDING SOME TIME WITH
OUR LORD IN THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.
OUR ADORATION CHAPEL IS LOCATED
BETWEEN THE CHURCH AND THE SCHOOL
BUILDING.

OPEN MONDAY-FRIDAY FROM 7:00 AM-7:00 PM
SATURDAY FROM 7:00 AM-3:00 PM
SUNDAY 12:00 NOON TO 7:00 PM
CLOSED HOLYDAYS & HOLIDAYS

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the family of
Saint Francis of Assisi,
aim to inspire hearts of

compassion, kindness,
and love through
our worship of the
Holy Eucharist.



SACRAMENTAL AND PARISH INFORMATION

New Members

Welcome to Saint Francis Parish. Please call the Parish Center Office in order to register in our parish, or stop in during office hours or on the weekend after all Masses. One needs to be a member of our parish three months in order to receive a certificate of eligibility. Please notify the office if you change your address or move away.

Religious Education (PREP)

All children of the parish should be receiving religious instruction through our parish school or through our Parish Religious Education Program which has been combined with the Cathedral of Saint Catharine of Siena. Please contact the Coordinator of Religious Education, Donna Sciacca at 610-432-7655 or by email at prep@cathedral-church.org

Marriage

We look forward to celebrating God's gift of love in the sacrament of marriage for any registered and practicing parishioner. Diocesan policy states that contact should be made one year, but no later than six months, prior to the proposed date of marriage in order to begin pre-nuptial instructions. Call the Parish Center Office for further information.

Baptisms

Baptisms are held for our registered (at least three months) and practicing parishioners normally the first Sunday of the month immediately after the 10:30 Mass. Parents are to register for a Baptismal Preparation Class held normally on the Wednesday before each baptism in the Parish Center. At least one Godparent must be a practicing Catholic for the valid reception of baptism. That person must also be able to receive a certificate of eligibility from their Catholic parish. A Non-Catholic Christian is permitted to act as a witness. Parents should begin to make arrangements for a baptism during pregnancy.

Godparents & Confirmation Sponsors Info

You must be at least 16 years of age, have received the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation, must be known to attend Mass regularly and, if married, the marriage must be recognized by the church. These requirements are the universal law of the church. All requests for 'Letters of Good Standing' are to be made well in advance to the Parish Office.

Ministry to the Sick

Please notify the Parish Center Office when a parishioner is in the hospital or home and would like to receive communion or the anointing of the sick. Visits can also be made to those parishioners who are homebound and would like to receive confession and communion.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

We welcome and support all whose faith journey brings them to seek full communion with the Catholic Church. Please call the Parish Center Office for further information.

Saint John Vianney Regional School

We encourage all our parents to consider sending their children to our parish school, Saint John Vianney Regional School. Our school is located at 210 North 18th Street in Allentown. Please contact our school principal at 610-435-8981 to register your child for a faith based, middle-states accredited, Catholic education.

Allentown Central Catholic High School

We encourage our high school students to consider attending our local Catholic high school - Allentown Central Catholic. Please contact the Director of Admissions, at (610) 437-4601 for more information.

Wills and Memorials

As a lasting remembrance or final gift to your parish, all parishioners are encouraged to include St. Francis of Assisi in their wills or as a beneficiary on an insurance policy. At the time of passing of a relative or friend, consider enrolling them in the Sanctuary Memorial Fund. Memorials are available in the Parish Center Office and are often used in lieu of flowers.

Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator

Pamela J. Russo, MSW, MS
610-871-5200, Ext. 2204

Victim Assistance Coordinator

Wendy Krisak, MA, NCC, LPC
Direct Telephone Number (800)791-9209

The Diocese of Allentown provides assistance to anyone who, as a minor, was sexually abused by a priest, deacon, or employee/volunteer of the Diocese/Parish. Parents, guardians, children, and survivors of sexual abuse are invited and encouraged to contact the Diocese of Allentown for more information about this program. The fullness of compassion should be extended to these victims by the Church. To learn more about the Diocese of Allentown's Youth Protection Programs, Sexual Abuse Policy, and Code of Conduct, please visit www.allentowndiocese.org and click on "Youth Protection" in the upper right-hand corner of the page.

If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the **Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service** at www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or by calling 800-276-1562.



Sanctuary Lamp Memorials

If you would like to memorialize the red sanctuary lamp for the Tabernacle for a week, the cost is \$10 for the seven day candle. Please contact Stephanie Epler at the Parish Office, 610-433-6102, for information.

The Sanctuary Lamp Memorial for the week September 20, 2026

*In Memory of Mary and Jack Griffin
Offered by: Jim and Susan Steiner*



Floral Intentions

Floral intentions for in front of the Holy Family and the Sacred Heart can be offered in memory of a loved one or in honor of a living person(s), or an anniversary of marriage. It is our wish to beautify the altar with your spiritual intention(s). A donation can be made for live flowers to be placed in front of one statue for \$30.00 or \$60.00 for both places of honor.

*The Flowers in front of Holy Family &
Sacred Heart of Jesus*

*For the week of September 13, 2026 are
In Honor of Kathy & Narcey Zmijewski
On their 50th Anniversary*

Recently Deceased



Please pray for the souls of Robert Palermo, brother of parishioner Doris Marsicano and former parishioner Joseph DeLaurentis who recently passed away. Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and may their families know your peace and comfort.

Sanctuary Memorial Fund

We acknowledge these contributions in memory of:

Louise M. Karoly

by: Diane Handwerk, Kenneth Mertz, David and Donna Lee Steigerwalt

Eternal rest, grant unto her, O Lord.



Flocknote

Don't forget to text STFRAN to 84576 on your smartphone to get signed up with Flocknote! (If you don't have a smartphone, you can visit our website and look for the link that will allow you to sign up from there.) Text messages and emails can be easily sent to members during lock-downs, closures, and emergencies, as well as updates, event notifications, check-ins, prayer requests, and more.

Mass Schedule

Monday, Sept 21, 2026

St. Matthew, Apostle

Eph 4:1-7 11-13; Mt 9: 1-9

7:00 PM Louis "Skip" Giannelli

Tuesday, Sept. 22nd

Prov 21:1-6 10-13; Lk 8: 19-21

8:00 AM Anna Persa

Wednesday, Sept. 23rd

St. Pius of Pietrelcina

Prv 3:5-9; Lk 9:1-6

8:00 AM Nicholas Troccola

Thursday, Sept. 24th

Eccl 1:2-11; Lk 9: 7-9

8:00 AM The People of Saint Francis

Friday, Sept. 25th

3Eccl 3:1-11; Lk 0:18-22

8:00 AM Jodi Oberto

Saturday and Sunday, September 26th and 27th

Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ez 18:25-28; Phil 2:1-11; Mt 21:28-32

4:30 PM Teresa Fronheiser

8:30 AM John Menichini

10:30 AM Kathy Jerant

Sacred Heart and Miraculous Medal Novenas

The Miraculous Medal Novena is recited *every* Monday after the 7:00 PM evening Mass. The Novena to the Sacred Heart is recited on the First Friday each month at the 8:00 AM daily Mass. Each novena comes with special benefits. All are invited. Father Rich will hear confessions prior to the Monday 7:00 PM Mass, in addition to the Saturday confessions at 3:15 PM.



COOKS WITH COLLARS IS BACK!

Father Rich needs your help!

Father Rich will represent Saint Francis of Assisi Parish in COOKS WITH COLLARS,

the online cooking competition to raise funds for parishes in the Diocese of Allentown. Voting starts **Sept 1st thru Sept 30th.**

Visit www.cookswithcollars.com to see your favorite priests from around the Diocese creating delicious kitchen concoctions. Vote early and vote often (deadline September 30th) for our Diocesan top chef! Remember that all voting proceeds benefit our parish. Thanks for making Father Rich and Saint Francis of Assisi Parish a winner!

*Please...No gum in church!
Please be respectful of the Holy Eucharist.*

Third Annual Saint Januarius Blood Drive

For the third consecutive year, Bishop Schlert is pleased to invite the faithful throughout the Diocese of Allentown to participate in the Saint Januarius Blood Drive in partnership with Miller-Keystone Blood Center, the only community blood center serving our region. The campaign will once again begin on the Feast of Saint Januarius, September 19, and continue through December 16. To schedule an appointment, go to www.giveapint.org or call 800-223-6667 ext. 2.

Sanctuary Memorial Fund

We acknowledge these contributions in memory of:

Timothy A. Volack

by: Marie Volack

Helen M. Roveda

by: Jay H. Gilbert & Family

Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord.

We acknowledge these contributions in *honor* of:

Anthony F. Todora

by: Sharon Todora

Stephen M. Todora

by: Sharon Todora

Joseph C. Todora

by: Sharon Todora

William M. Todora, Jr.

by: Sharon Todora

Adoration Chapel Hours:

Monday through Friday: 7 AM—7 PM

Saturday: 7 AM—3 PM

Sunday: 12 PM—7 PM

Closed Holidays and Holy Days

Someone will call you within the next couple of weeks if you have requested a call regarding your boiler contribution.

Baked Goods Needed for Attic Treasures

Please consider donating your marvelous baked goods for the Parish to sell at Attic Treasures! Goodies can be dropped off Friday, October 9th (9 AM to 2:30 PM), Saturday, October 10th or Sunday, October 11th. Thank you so much for donating to our big Parish Event!

As a reminder, the first drop-off is this coming Saturday, September 26th from 9 AM until 12 Noon at the Cedar Street Ramp. We can use help on drop-off days.



Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Day

On Wednesday, October 21st from 8 AM to 11 PM, Boscov's Department Store will again host their popular

FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS event, a special day filled with fun and fundraising. Shopping passes for this special event are available at the Parish Office for only \$5 each. Each pass includes a 25% discount shopping pass* for purchases made only on October 21, 2026. St. Francis of Assisi will keep the entire \$5 made on each pass. Help us to earn even more by purchasing your Boscov's gift cards at the Parish Office! *Some exclusions apply*

St. Francis Center at Monocacy Manor

395 Bridle Path Road, Bethlehem, PA 18017

Remembering our holy Father, Francis of Assisi....

8th Centenary of the Transitus of Saint Francis

Saturday, October 3rd, 7 PM in the White House Chapel. Free will offerings accepted.

Three Evenings with Three Franciscan Saints: Saint Clare of Assisi, Saint Bonaventure, Blessed John Duns Scotus, facilitator: Sister Barbara Brown, OSF, Thursdays, October 8, 15 and 22nd, 6:30-8:00 PM, first floor conference room at St. Francis Center, Monocacy Manor. \$15 per session or 3 sessions for \$35.00. Register online for both events at www.SchoolSistersOsf.org or by phone 610-867-8890.



New Parishioners

As a parish community, we always welcome new parishioners with open arms and hearts. At this time we would like to welcome Francesca M. Lesisko and Zachariah, Christine Mullin, Kelly Ann Phillips, and Corey and Dawn Pysher.

Our annual **Blessing of Pets** in honor of our patron saint, Saint Francis of Assisi, will be on Saturday, October 3rd at 9:00 AM in our Church Parking Lot. We ask that all animals be under the control of their owners by leash or in a crate or carrier. The service will be held rain or shine. This is a wonderful opportunity to do something special for those creatures of God that bring us such joy.

St. Francis of Assisi, pray for us!



IT IS FOR: Adults (18 years or Older) who are:

- Not Baptized or
- Baptized in another Christian Church and interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith or
- Baptized into the Catholic Faith but have not received First Eucharist or Confirmation.

Curious About the Catholic Faith? Join Us!

Is your spouse, fiancé, or a friend not Catholic, or do they want to learn more about the Church? We warmly invite spouses and loved ones to attend our OCIA sessions. You do not have to commit to joining the Church. This is a safe space to ask questions, share faith, and learn together.

When & Where: September 27th after the 10:30 mass in the Weekend Sacristy

Contact: To learn more or sign up, reach out to Helen Moyer at 610-730-8263 or the Parish Office at 610-433-6102.



September 20, 2026
Twenty-Fifth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Vocations Ministry

“The last will be first, and the first will be last”
(Matthew 20:16)

God’s kingdom values humility and self-giving. Those in consecrated life embrace poverty, offering their lives in service to others, just as Mother Teresa of Calcutta did. Pray about how God might be inviting you to live generously for His people and consider learning more about this vocation. Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 610-437-0755 or via email: jmaria@allentowndiocese.org



Traveling Saint Francis of Assisi Statue

Our blessed statue of Saint Francis can come and spend some time in your home. Each parish household can sign up for a week to "house" Saint Francis. Please call the Parish Office at 610-433-6102 to schedule your week.

Christmas Bus Trip

St. Francis of Assisi will run a Bus Trip to The American Music Theatre’s 2026 Christmas Show, “**Winter Wonderland**” on Wednesday, December 2nd, with a stop at Shady Maple for their lunch buffet prior to the show. \$145 per person covers bus and driver tip, meal and show.

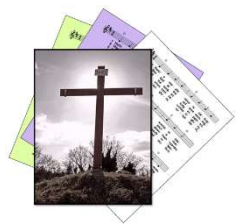


Choir Practice Has Returned!

Do you enjoy singing?? Do you enjoy meeting, working with, and laughing with your fellow parishioners?? Then, please join our parish choir!!

We rehearse on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 - 8:00 PM and sing 2-3 times per month...not at the same Mass. Our schedule varies each month. You do not need to be able to read music...you just need to love spreading God’s joy through music. Remember...those who sing pray twice!! Please contact Rosanne at rosiemusic4@gmail.com or call 484-225-2080 for more details. Thank you!

This week: Tuesday, September 22, 6:30 – 8:00 PM in the choir loft



Retrouvaille: Rediscover
The Love In Your
Marriage

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program begins the weekend of October 2 - 4 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit MarriageHelpDelVal.org or call 215-766-3944. All inquiries are strictly confidential.



Our Weekly Stewardship

Weekend of September 12 & 13, 2026

Sunday in Pew	\$ 4,184.00
Sunday Online	\$ 2,993.84

Thank you for your continued contributions to our parish. We appreciate all that you do, financially and other ways, to make our parish great. Please consider online giving. It’s safe, easy and secure. Visit our website for more information.

St. Francis Attic Treasures

*Attic Treasures
Bake Sale
Food to Eat in or Take out*

Saturday, October 10th —10:00 AM-6:30 PM

Sunday, October 11th —12:00 Noon-5:00 PM

Monday, October 12th—10:00 AM-2:00 PM - BAG DAY

WE CANNOT ACCEPT:

Tires, Major Appliances (Stoves, Washers, Dryers, etc. No Upholstered or Large Furniture (sofas, dining tables, etc.) No Encyclopedias, Magazines, Baby Furniture (cribs, walkers, play pens, car seats, highchairs.) No Electronics (computers and accessories.) No Kerosene Heaters or Gas Grills. ***NO VCR's, VHS TAPES, 8 TRACKS, CASSETTES, CD's or BOOKS.***

***Newspapers are always appreciated.
(We have more than enough plastic bags.)***

DONATIONS NEEDED:

Items can be delivered to Heritage Hall Cedar Street ramp door. Please have items clean and small appliances working. There will be helpers at the ramp for your donations.

2026 Donation Drop-off:

Saturdays:

September 26th

October 3rd

9:00 AM—12:00 PM

Help is needed on Donation Days



We will be working in the Church Hall every Monday and Tuesday from 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM beginning September 8th (day after Labor Day) until the event.

All help is greatly appreciated. Thank you for all you do for our parish!

If you have any questions, please call Phyllis, 484-522-9619.

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH MISSION

800th Anniversary of the Passing of Our Holy Patron Francis

October 4, 5 & 6 at 7:00 PM



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

**Talk &
Penance**

Visiting confessors available

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5

**Mass
with Homily**

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6

**Benediction
& Homily**

Saint Francis of Assisi Parish

Liturgical Ministers Schedule

Saturday and Sunday, September 26 & 27, 2026

	<u>4:30 PM</u>	<u>8:30AM</u>	<u>10:30 AM</u>
Lector	J. Fittipaldi	H. Moyer	D. Colom
Eucharistic Ministers	E. Wascavage, G. Rodriguez, M. Evans	T. Racek, P. Baker, A. Rutz-Drovich	J. Colom, M. Dietrick, J. Young
Cantor	M. Maramag	A. Huynh	A. Eaves
Organist	D. Badesso	R. Venditto	D. Badesso
Altar Servers	V. Herman, M. Joliffe	V. Huynh	S. Issermoyer
Sacristan	D. Wascavage	P. McFadden	P. McFadden

Warming our Church - Nourishing our Faith



As a member of Saint Francis, you should have already received our mailing regarding the need for new boilers.

If not, please contact the office and we will make sure you receive this important information for your involvement.

Envelope Use

We ask if you receive parish envelopes, that you use them rather than putting loose cash offerings in the collection basket. This will enable us to give you an annual contribution statement that can be used for income tax purposes. It also shows that you have attended Mass. If you receive envelopes but cannot afford to donate, mark your envelope with a letter "P" showing us that you were present. If you give online and feel a bit awkward when the collection basket comes by, you may check the box saying "I've given online" and drop in your empty envelope in the basket. Or you may simply just give online and ask for your envelopes to be stopped.