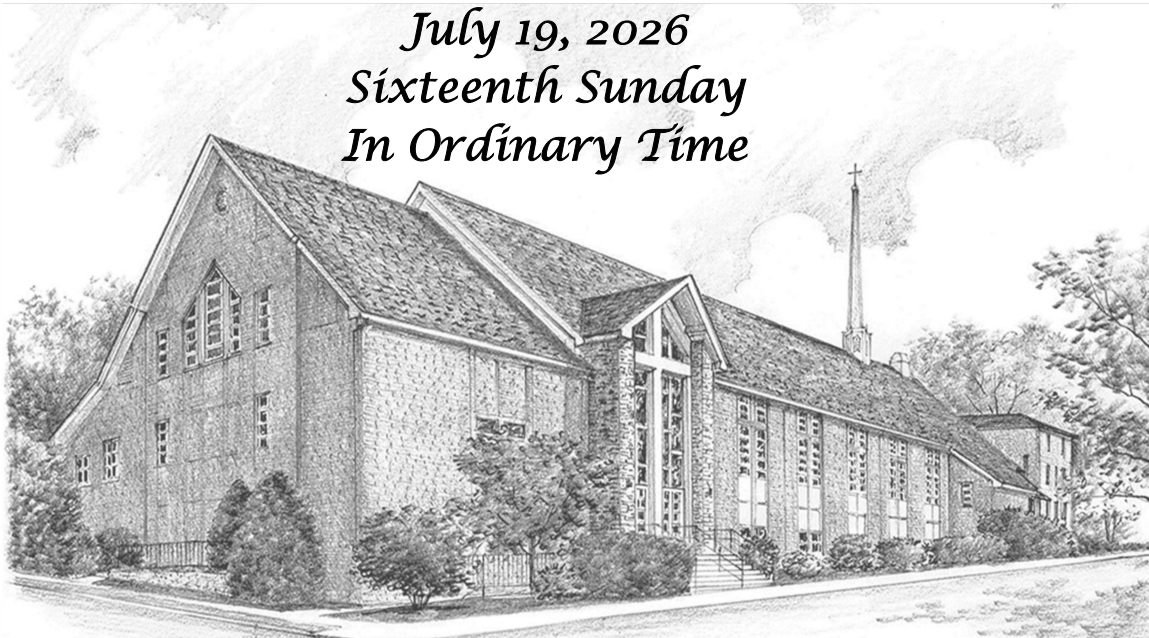


SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

WWW.STFRANCISALLENTOWN.ORG

FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM: @STFRANCISALLENTOWN



*July 19, 2026
Sixteenth 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
July 19, 2026 is
*In Memory of Frederick Moser
By Larry and Conchita Moser***



Floral Intentions

If you would like to offer Floral Intentions in memory or in honor of a loved one, please call the Parish Office. Live flowers can be placed in front of The Holy Family or The Sacred Heart for \$30 each, or \$60 for both sides.

**The flowers in front of The Holy Family
For the week of July 19, 2026 are
*In Memory of Frederick Moser
By Larry and Conchita Moser***



Summer Spectacular Drawing

Our Summer Spectacular Drawing is back! You should have received tickets in your mailbox by now. Additional tickets can be picked up at the Parish Office.

Sanctuary Memorial Fund

We acknowledge this contribution in *honor of:*
The Konschnik Family
by: Anonymous donor

John Patrick Publishing Company prints our weekly bulletin. To place ads on the back of our bulletin, contact Michele Barron at 484-300-2062.

Disaster Relief Fund Collection

You will notice that there is a new envelope in your packet of collection envelopes marked Disaster Relief Fund, dated July 26, 2026. It seems that many summers an area of the country or the world experiences some type of disaster and the church is asked to have a collection in order to help the residents affected. Our thought was to have some money readily available to be dispersed as soon as possible when the need arises.

Bishop Schlert recently asked for all parishes in our diocese to conduct a special collection to aid the people of Venezuela following the catastrophic earthquake. The need is great for shelter, food, clothing and other necessities. Therefore, our first Disaster Relief Fund collection will be used for the people of Venezuela affected by the earthquake. We thank you for your generosity to this important matter.

Mass Schedule

Monday, July 20, 2026

Saint Apolinaris

Mt 6:1-4, 6-8; Mt 12:38-42

7:00 PM Ernest G. Schwab

Tuesday, July 21st

Saint Lawrence of Brindisi

Mt 7:14-15, 18-20; Mt 12:46-50

8:00 AM Betty Kelly

Wednesday, July 22nd

Saint Mary Magdalene

Sg 3:1-4b; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

8:00 AM Victoria Abesamis

Thursday, July 23rd

Saint Bridget

Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13; Mt 13:10-17

8:00 AM People of St. Francis of Assisi Parish

Friday, July 24th

Saint Sharbel Makhlof

Jer 3:14-17; Mt 13:18-23

8:00 AM Bernhard Kastner

**Saturday and Sunday, July 25th and 26th
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52

4:30 PM William Adams

8:30 AM Dolores Oswald

10:30 AM Joseph Marzili & Marshall & Nina Silverstein

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.

Diocesan Cemetery Mausoleum

The new Diocesan Cemetery Mausoleum, Tongues as of Fire-Assumption of Mary Mausoleum is now available at Holy Savior Cemetery for the purchase of entombment rights in a single or companion crypt or interment in side by side niches for cremated remains. The Resurrection-Ascension Mausoleum is available at both Resurrection (610-395-3819 x1) and Holy Savior (610-866-2372 x1) Cemeteries.

250 Hours of Eucharistic Adoration

Each parishioner is asked to spend at least one hour this month in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, in celebration of 250 Years of the United States of America. Adoration Chapel hours are listed on the front of the bulletin.

After completing your visit, please enter your name and amount of time you have spent in Adoration in the book in the Narthex. We will tally the hours on a weekly basis during the month of July.



St. John Vianney Regional School
210 N. 18th St., Allentown, PA 18104

- Preschool Programs, Full Day
 - Kindergarten through 8th Grade
 - Safe Environment, Faith-Filled Curriculum
 - Outstanding Academics
 - Free Tour and Shadow Days
- SJVRs: Educating a child's character, mind, and spirit!
 Phone: 610-435-8981

Email: principal@stjohnvianneyschool.org

Call us today to schedule a tour at your convenience!
SJVRs: Educating a child's character, mind and spirit!

School Mission Statement

St. John Vianney Regional School is a Catholic community dedicated to living our faith in Jesus Christ from Preschool through 8th Grade. Our school and families partner together to encourage an appreciation for our diverse world. In a caring and respectful environment, we develop independent thinkers through spiritual values and strong academics. St. John Vianney students celebrate each day through prayer, education, and service; and embrace tomorrow committed to faith, leadership, and community.

Attire



At all times, but especially in these warm months, it is important to remember that the way we dress at Mass should be appropriate. Few of us long for the "good old days" of suits for men, best dresses and hats or veils for ladies, special outfits for children! Still, even in our casual society, clothing that is suitable for the beach or the amusement part is not suitable for Mass. Even places of business and fine restaurants have dress codes. We can show our respect for the Real Presence and also for one another by dressing conservatively. NOTE: halters, strapless tops or other items of clothing suitable for play or beach wear are best left to those locations and occasions and not worn to Mass.

Did You Know. . .

Adult children who move out of their family home are no longer considered to be registered in the Parish. If they wish to remain as members, they should register under their own name. If they live out of the area, they should register at their local Parish.



July 19, 2026

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vocations Ministry

"The kingdom of heaven is like mustard seed." (Matthew 13:31)

Small acts of faith can grow into great vocations. A call to a particular vocation often begins quietly, but as you pray and nurture it, it can blossom into something beautiful. Is God placing a vocation in your heart? Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 610-437-0755 or via email: jmaria@allentowndiocese.org

An Urgent Plea For Our Times

"Til now, nothing could blind Satan as much. And it is up to you not to reject my flame of Love, for this rejection would simply spell disaster."

We pray the Flame of Love Rosary in the Adoration Chapel every Saturday at noon. You are invited to pray with us and help Our Lady blind Satan in these evil times. God bless you for your efforts.



Cursillo Weekend

There are retreats and then there is the "Cursillo Weekend"!

Cursillo How does a Cursillo weekend differ from other retreats? While both offer spiritual renewal, Cursillo is a dynamic, highly interactive three-day learning experience designed to be taken once in a lifetime. In contrast, a retreat usually emphasizes personal solitude, silence, and prayer. Retreats can be taken repeatedly, while Cursillo is a foundational method meant to jump-start everyday Christian life.

2026 Schedule of Cursillo Weekends in the Allentown Diocese

Men's Cursillo Weekend

6:00 PM, Thursday, September 17th thru Sunday evening, September 20, 2026

Place: Mariawald Retreat House, Shillington, PA

Women's Cursillo Weekend

6:00 PM Thursday, September 24th thru Sunday evening, September 27, 2026

Place: Mariawald Retreat House, Shillington, PA

We have some members of our parish, who made a Cursillo weekend and continue to meet regularly in small group format to support one another in their faith journey. It has been a real source of grace for everyone involved. We would love to have you join us. For more information, please contact

Theresa Racek

tracek@enter.net or 610-428-0708

2nd Annual Parishioner Appreciation Picnic

Sponsored by the St. Francis Outreach Committee



Music

Games

WHEN: Sunday, August 2, 2026

WHERE: St. Francis of Assisi Church Hall

TIME: 12:00pm

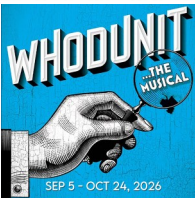
The St. Francis of Assisi Outreach Committee is hosting this picnic in appreciation of all the support our parishioners have provided throughout the year. This is a **FREE** event! We just ask that you sign up using the sign-up sheets in the Narthex after all masses on the weekends of July 18 & 25 or you can sign up in the parish office during normal office hours.

Please plan to join us for an afternoon of **FUN, FOOD** and **FELLOWSHIP!**

Food, Drinks,
Desserts!



50/50
Drawing!



Pines Dinner Theatre Show

We will be attending a show as a group at Pines Dinner Theatre, 315 S. Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown, on Thursday, October 1, 2026. No bus required; you will drive there yourself or carpool with friends. Your group ticket includes your reserved seat for the show, along with a meal of garden salad, entree, dessert, iced tea, coffee and fountain sodas, and covers gratuity for your server. Meal is served at noon and show begins at 1:30 PM. The all-inclusive price is \$75.00. Call Stephanie at the Parish Office to reserve your seat, 610-433-6102.

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.



Prayer Requests

Please Join Our Prayer Chain

Our prayer chain operates by phone and email. We are always looking to recruit **more people** to pray for those in need. This is a simple but powerful way to help our parishioners; please consider joining us! Email Stephanie Epler at sepler@stfrancisallentown.org to be added or to make a prayer request. All emails will be kept confidential. A group email will be sent as each prayer request is received. Of course, you may still call in prayer requests by phone at 610-433-6102.

Pray For Our Seminarians

Father, in Your plan for our salvation You provide shepherds for Your people. Fill Your church in the Diocese of Allentown with the spirit of courage and love. Raise up from our families future priests: worthy ministers for Your altars, generous and ardent servants of the Gospel. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Parish Religious Education Program 2026-2027



As many of you are aware, the PREP Program at St. Francis Parish is no longer held onsite. We have joined

with the Program at the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena. Please contact Mrs. Donna Sciacca, Director of Religious Education at the Cathedral now to register your child(ren) from St. Francis of Assisi Parish at 610-432-7655 or by email: prep@cathedralchurch.org. Registration forms can be downloaded from St. Catharine of Siena's website. NOW is the time to register. A late fee of \$25 is applied to every registration received after July 29, 2026.

Seeking Catechists and Co-Catechists for our Religious Education program.

*** Volunteers receive 50% off the total cost of their child(ren)s PREP registration fee. ***

Qualifications:

- ☐ Are over the age of 18, and have received your Sacraments of Baptism, First Eucharist, and Confirmation;
- ☐ You are a practicing Catholic who lives your life in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church. Attends weekly Mass and receives the Eucharist and attends Confession regularly.
- ☐ All volunteers are required to obtain ALL child clearances specified by the Diocese of Allentown.
- ☐ Prior teaching experience is a plus but not required. We will train you.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the PREP Office via email or phone at:

Donna Sciacca, Director of Religious Education
prep@cathedral-church.org
ph. 610-432-7655

Knights of Columbus Yard Sale Saint Anne, Bethlehem, PA

Saturday and Sunday, July 18th & 19th, 7 AM-3 PM.
Info. 610-730-9333, 262-308-6943.

Dance at Saint John the Baptist Allentown, PA

Saturday, August 1st, 7-10 PM, tickets \$5.

Retrouvaille: Rediscover the Love in Your Marriage



Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriage through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. 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 July 31 - August 2, 2026 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, call 215-766-3944 or visit www.MarriageHelpDelVal.org or call 215-766-3944. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

Employment Opportunities

Holy Family Villa is seeking potential employees for direct care and housekeeping positions. Holy Family Villa is currently seeking compassionate, dedicated individuals to join its mission of providing exceptional care to our clergy in a faith-centered environment. As many of your fellow brothers have either received care at the Villa or have in the past, we believe that sharing this information within the parish communities could help us find interested candidates. Many members of your parish community may have family or friends who may be interested in applying and giving back to those who have provided them with spiritual guidance.

Holy Family Villa is a wonderful place to work, offering rewarding opportunities for those who wish to give back to those who have contributed so much throughout their lives. Contact Anna Salivonchik at 610-871-5200, ext. 2273.

Bingo Buffet at Incarnation



Incarnation of Our Lord Parish is sponsoring its annual Bingo Buffet on Saturday, August 29, 2026. This social event, organized by our Parish Activities Group (PAG), will be held in LaBuda Hall (church basement.) Doors will open at 5:15 PM (after 4:15 PM Mass), and bingo will start at approximately 6:15 PM. Tickets are \$25 in advance; \$30 at the door. The ticket includes 15 bingo games on cards, a buffet supper, and non-alcoholic beverages. Call the rectory at 610-866-3391 for advance tickets.

Liturgical Ministers Schedule Saturday and Sunday, July 25th and 26th

	<u>4:30 PM</u>	<u>8:30AM</u>	<u>10:30 AM</u>
Lector	M. Fiorentino	K. McFadden	D. Colom
Eucharistic Ministers	F. & S. Koerbler, P. Stiles	J. & P. Philapavage, L. Unger	J. Colom, M. Dietrick, L. Moser
Cantor	G. Rodriguez	M. Issermoyer	A. Huynh
Organist	D. Badesso	R. Venditto	D. Badesso
Altar Servers	V. Herman, M. Joliffe	C. Peischl	V. Huynh
Sacristan	J. DeLeo	P. McFadden	P. McFadden

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, high chairs.) No Electronics (computers and accessories.) No Kerosene Heaters or Gas Grills. ***NO VCR's, VHS TAPES, 8 TRACKS, CASSETTES, CD's or BOOKS.***

***Newspapers and plastic bags
are always appreciated.***

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.