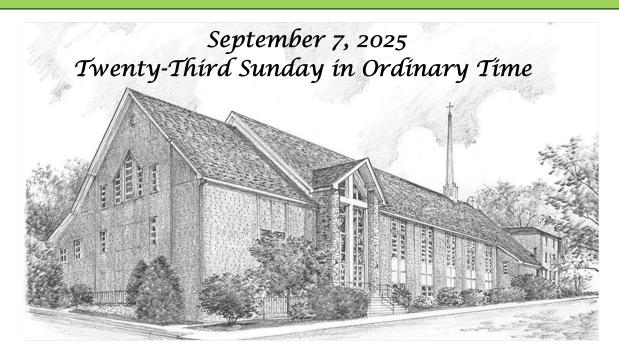
SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

WWW.STFRANCISALLENTOWN.ORG

FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM: @STFRANCISALLENTOWN



PastorReverend 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 (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 daily from 7:00 AM—9:00 PM.

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 <u>well</u> 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 7, 2025 is In Memory of Margie Glenn By John & Peggy Philapavage

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 and The Sacred Heart for the week of September 7, 2025 are In Memory of Emilia Ilagan By Larry and Conchita Moser

Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee will meet on Monday, September 8th at 6:00 PM in Heritage Hall. Enter through the Cedar Street ramp. For more info., call Michelle at 610-737-9469.

St. Francis Senior Citizens Meeting

On Tuesday, September 9th, the Senior Citizens will meet at 1:00 PM in Heritage Hall for a short meeting, bingo and cards. For more info, call Madeline Klotz at 610-395-7386.

Choir Schedule

The choir will begin rehearsals on Tuesday, September 9th, at 6:30 PM in the choir loft. We welcome our choir members back and also will welcome new members!





Food Pantry

The Outreach Committee's Food Pantry will be open to the public on Wednesday, September 10th

from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM, in the Franciscan Center (former Convent.)

Serve, Connect, Grow - Parish Involvement Sign-Up Your gifts and talents are needed!

Our parish thrives when we work together, and there's a place for everyone to serve. Whether you enjoy hospitality, prayer, outreach, or planning events, we have a committee where you can make a difference (a complete list will be heading your way via snail mail). Sign up today on Flocknote.com or contact the parish office for assistance and be part of building our parish family! (a) Stay tuned!

Mass Schedule

Monday, September 8, 2025 Mi 5:1-4a; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23

7:00 PM Mark Hafeman

Tuesday, September 9th

Col 2:6-15; Lk 6:12-19

8:00 AM Harriet Worman

Wednesday, September 10th

Col 3:1-11; Lk 6:20-26

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

Thursday, September 11th

Col 3:12-17; Lk 6:27-38

8:00 AM Stuart Lathrop Friday, September 12th

The Most Holy Name of Mary

Nativity of the

Blessed Virgin Mary

Saint Peter Claver

1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14; Lk 6:39-42

8:00 AM Dorothy A. Holveck

Saturday and Sunday, September 13th & 14th The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Nm 21:4b-9; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17 **4:30 PM** Nancy Lewullis & son Joseph

8:30 AM Yolanda Tellechea

10:30 AM Margaret & Rudolph Granitz

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.

Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass

Married couples from across the Diocese are invited to renew their vows and thank God for the gift of the Sacrament of Marriage during



the Annual Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass, to be celebrated Sunday, September 14, 2025 at 3 PM. Doors will open at 2 PM. The Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Alfred Schlert at the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, 1825 West Turner St., Allentown, PA 18104. Register at https://www.allentowndiocese.org/anniversarymass



COOKS WITH COLLARS

Starting September 1st!

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. 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!



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.



Traveling Statue of Saint Francis of Assisi

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.



2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR!

Contact Admissions Director Cara Meskill at cmeskill@acchs.info with questions or to tour the campus.

Academic Success. Catholic Values.

301 N Fourth Street, Allentown, PA 18102 | (610) 437-4601 | www.acchs.info



PREP Program at Cathedral

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@cathedral-church.org. Registration forms can be downloaded from St. Catharine of Siena's website, and there are printed copies in our Parish Office.

NOW is the time to register. (A late fee of \$25 is applied to all registrations received after July 14, 2025.)



We're Hiring!

St. John Vianney Regional School in Allentown is looking for professional, positive and faith-filled individuals to join our team for the 2025–2026 school year! We are seeking applicants for the following positions:

> Full time Lead Preschool Teacher Full time Preschool Aide

Full time Kindergarten Aide Substitute Teachers - All grades Lunchroom Monitors

AM/PM Extended Care Monitors



Please scan the QR code to learn more about these positions and how to apply. As clearances are also required, interested applicants should apply and follow up as indicated as soon as possible. We hope you consider SJVRS and remember... it's always a great day to be a bulldoo!

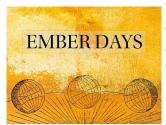


Celebrating Today, Embracing Tomorrow!

Men of St. Francis Meeting

The Men of St Francis will meet on Tuesday, September 16th at 7:00 PM in Heritage Hall. All men of the parish age 18 and over are welcome to attend. For additional info... contact Bob Webre at 484-225-0984.





September Ember Days

The "Ember Days" are three days of fasting and abstinence observed four times a year i.e., on a Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday in each of the four seasons. They occurred on those weekdays after Ash

Wednesday, Pentecost, the Exaltation of the Cross and St. Lucy's Day. The next Ember Days are September 17, 19, and 20 and December 17, 19, and 20. They are intended to focus our attention on the good things of God's creation. They are also times to pray for vocations because, traditionally, they were days of ordination.

Grace and Hope in Parenthood

Join us on Tuesday, September 9th from 7-8:30 PM at Notre Dame High School, Easton for an evening of encouragement and renewal. Guest speaker John Beaulieu, Catholic missionary evangelist and ministry renewal leader, will share uplifting insights to help you embrace the beauty and challenges of parenthood with fresh perspective and faith. Whether you're navigating sleepless nights, teenage trials, or the everyday ups and downs of raising children, this night is for you. Be reminded that you are not alone - God sees you, supports you, and offers you the grace you need each day. Contact Zelenda Hodgskin at zhodgskin@allentowndiocese.org. Register here: https://allentowndiocese.flocknote.com/ signup/220468.

Better Together Widow and Widower Social Group

Better Together Widow and Widower Social Group, community for widows and widowers to connect with others in the same circumstance, meets monthly at Assumption Church, 4101 Old Bethlehem Pike, Bethlehem, PA., in the Jubilee Center. The next meeting will be on September 10th (Second Wednesday) at 1 PM, 610-867-7424 x 16 for more info.

Theology on Tap with Bishop Schlert

Join us on Thursday, September 11th, from 6:30-8:30 PM at the Willow Haven General Store on 8150 Hamilton Blvd., Breinigsville for Theology on Tap with Bishop Schlert. Drinks and appetizers included. Register at https://allentowndiocese.flocknote.com/signup/219347. Contact Zelenda with questions: zhodgskin@allentowndiocese.org.

Women's Retreat Weekend September 12-14

Malvern Retreat House would like to invite women to experience a period of refreshment, support, reassurance, learning, and concentration on the gift of their lives. Learn, reflect, "dump your stuff," fortify yourself, increase your personal communion with the Lord. Fri night to Sun morning. Contact: Anthony Scarselletti, 610-393-4671, OLPH.ascarselletti@gmail.com.

Cash Bingo

Sunday, September 14th (2nd Sundays), Sacred Heart, Palmerton, social hall at 1:00 PM. Doors and kitchen open at noon. Admission \$25, for tickets: 610-826-2335.

United Hearts Life Presents An Evening with Sarah Kroger

September 14th at 7:00 PM, Notre Dame High School Alumni Auditorium, 3417 Church Rd., Easton, PA. Sarah is a GMA



Dove Award-Nominated Artist, Songwriter and Worship Leader. Scan QR code or visit unitedhearts.life for tickets.

Public Rosary Hours



Please join us for our public Rosary Holy Hours on Saturdays at 12 noon and Sundays at 7 PM in the Adoration Chapel as we pray for our families, our priests, our country and our world. Questions, please call Karin at 610-351-0835.

St. Mary's Oktoberfest

St. Mary's Church, 122 Union St., Catasaugua, will hold their Ninth Annual Oktoberfest on Saturday, September 20th from 5:00 to 9:00 PM in their Parish Center. Outdoor seating will be available weather permitting.

Come for dinner and enjoy your homemade German Favorites: Pulled Pork, Chicken Schnitzel, Spaetzle, Brats and more. Our Biergarten will be stocked with your favorite German (and domestic) favorite beers. Live music all night long by Robbie Lawrence and the Steelworkers band. Wear your dancing shoes!

We will have a fall themed basket raffle and homemade desserts for sale. This event is free to attend, therefore no outside food or drinks are permitted.

Any questions: kim.stmarys122@gmail.com or 610-264-0332.

St. Francis Center at Monocacy Manor **September Programs**

395 Bridle Path Road, Bethlehem, PA 18017

Pilgrimage of Hope for Creation

September 20th | 1:00-4:00 PM On the grounds of Monocacy Manor, Various Presenters | All ages are welcome. Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World, 6 Week, Book Series, Presenter: Sister Marie Therese Sherwood, OSF Wednesdays, October 1st- November 5th, 10 AM-12:00 PM, \$40 | Deadline to register Sept. 20th

Upon registering, your book will be purchased through the Center and available for pick up prior to the start of the series.

PA March for Life - Bus From Bethlehem

Attend Pennsylvania Right for Life March at Harrisburg State Capitol on Monday, September 22rd. A bus will depart Sacred Heart Church, Bethlehem at 8:00 am and return around 4:00 pm. Cost is \$20.00 per person. For more information, contact Andrew - (484) 259-7740 / andrewazan3rd@rcn.com.



Lunch and Learn

Diocesan Catholic Women's Society of Giving, Saturday, September 27th at St. Joseph the Spirit of St. Catharine of Siena Worker, Orefield, 8:30 AM, grants

funds for local organizations. New members welcome, www.allentowndiocese.org/womensgiving

Retrouvaille: Rediscover the Love in Your Marriage

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages 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 It provides help for marriage to increase intimacy. problems, difficulties or crises. The next program begins the weekend of October 3 - 5 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, call 215-766-3944 or send an email to retrodelvalley@gmail. com. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

To inquire about Christian Burial, contact Resurrection Cemetery at (610) 395-3819 X 1 or Holy Savior Cemetery at (610) 866-2372 X 1

Red Cross Classes

Be Prepared to Save a Life by Investing an evening - American Red Cross First Aid/CPR/AED Classes taking place on Friday, Sept 19th and Friday, Nov. 7th at Bethlehem Township Community Center. Lifeguard Classes also scheduled. Contact Andrew / Instructor at (484) 259-7740 for more information.

Incarnation of Our Lord's Fall Bazaar

Incarnation of Our Lord Parish, 617 Pierce St., Bethlehem, PA. LaBuda Hall (Church Basement), September 27, 2025. Bazaar runs 12 – 7 PM. Polka Mass at 4:15 PM, led by The Changing Times & Tatra Slovak Folk Group. Tricky Tray, Fantastic Foods, Bake Sale, 50/50 Drawing. Information: 610-866-3391 (Parking: Laufer Street Lot, Jackson & Buchanan Lot, on-street).

Young Adult Book Club

Saturdays, September 27th, October 11th & 25th, November 8th & 22nd, December 6th, sponsored by the Commission for Young Adults, at the Parkland Community Library, 10 AM—Noon. "The Hours of the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ" by Luisa Piccarreta; lunch included. First 10 to register will receive a free book. To register, https://bit.ly/3UmKxeX.

Men Alive in Christ Full Day Annual Conference: Pilgrims Anchored in the Hope of Christ

Renew and strengthen your pilgrim journey of hope and trust in Christ Jesus at our annual full day Men's conference on October 11th at the Delta Marriott in Breinigsville. Embrace your mission to live virtuous masculinity, and deepen your relationship with God through a powerful day of men's fellowship, sacraments, and talks from our three acclaimed speakers. Event includes full lunch and confession.

8 AM - Registration and breakfast

9 AM - Conference talks begin

4 PM - Vigil Mass with Bishop Schlert (Fulfills Sunday Obligation)

Address: 7736 Adrienne Dr, Breinigsville, PA 18031. Contact: Mark McDevitt,markmcd@outlook.com, (610) 334-0330. Register at https://www.menaliveinchrist.org/events/.

"A Visit From Padre Pio's Friary"

National Centre for Padre Pio, Barto, Saturday, October 11th-Tuesday, October 14th. Rare relics of St. Pio on display, Mass with Bishop Alfred Schlert Tuesday, 10:30 AM, schedule at https://bit.ly/41CuvSa



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, Oct 10th (9 AM to 2:30 PM), Saturday, Oct 11th or Sunday, Oct 12th. We thank you so much for donating to our big Parish Event!

Low Impact Aerobics Sign-ups

Our instructor, Karen Hoff, is offering 10 weeks of aerobics on Tuesday nights (6:15 – 7:00 PM) from September 2nd to November 4th (No class on October 7th, make-up on Wed., October 1st.) in St. Elizabeth's parish hall, 435 Per-

shing Blvd., Whitehall. Cost is \$30.00 per person for the entire 10 weeks for 45 minutes of aerobic exercise only. Registration deadline is on September 1st or until the maximum number of participants is reached. Please contact Mary Spieker at the parish office to register 610-266-0695 ext. 208 or dirreled@sercc.org. See our website at: www.sercc.org. Bring a friend!

Beginner Low Impact Aerobic Class

Haven't exercised in a while but ready to ease your way back in? Other classes not a fit for you? 8 weeks on Tuesdays, September 2nd to October 21st (no class on October 7th, make-up on Wednesday, October 1st) from 5:30-6:00 PM in Saint Elizabeth's Parish Hall – 435 Pershing Blvd., Whitehall, PA. Registration required, \$20.00 for all 8 weeks. Deadline is September. 1st. Call or e-mail for more information: Mary Spieker at 610-266-0695 - dirreled@sercc.org. See our website: www.sercc.org

Cash Bingo

Walking with Moms in Need Ministry, Sunday, October 26th, St. Jane Frances de Chantal, Easton, at Brown & Lynch American Legion, Easton. 1:00, doors open 11:30, \$25 advance, \$30 at door, connie.kelton@rcn.com



John Patrick Publishing Company prints our weekly bulletin. To place ads on the back of our bulletin, contact Karen Donehower at 484-363-9475.

<u>Liturgical Ministers Schedule</u> Saturday and Sunday, September 13th & 14th			
	4:30 PM	<u>8:30AM</u>	<u>10:30 AM</u>
Lector	P. Stiles	M. Issermoyer	M. K. McMahon
Eucharistic Ministers	L. Eberly, M. Evans,	J. & P. Philapavage, P. Baker	B. Ocasio, T. Racek, D. Ruiz
	E. Wascavage		
Cantor	J. Fignar	P. Rollins	A. Huynh
Organist	R. Venditto	R. Venditto	J.A. Schneider
Altar Servers			V. Huynh, J. Martinez
Sacristan	J. Johnson	P. McFadden	P. McFadden

St. Francis Attic Treasures

Attic Treasures
Bake Sale

Food to Eat in or Take out

Saturday, October 11th —10:00 AM-6:30 PM
Sunday, October 12th —12:00 Noon-5:00 PM
Monday, October 13th—10:00 AM-2:00 PM - BAG DAY

WE CANNOT ACCEPT:

Tires, Major Appliances (Stoves, Washers, Dryers, etc., Electronics (TVs, Computers, VCRs, 8 Track Tapes, VHS Tapes, Cassettes, etc.), Baby Furniture (Cribs, Car Seats, Play Pens, Walkers, High Chairs), Encyclopedias, Magazines, etc., Kerosene Heaters, Gas Grills, Large and Upholstered Furniture, (Dining tables, Sofas, etc.), Christmas lights, Clothing, Shoes, etc.

We Will Accept:
Religious Books, Children's
Books and Current Fiction

DONATIONS NEEDED:

Items can be delivered to Heritage Hall, using the Cedar Street ramp door. Items MUST BE CLEAN; small appliances MUST WORK.

2025 Donation Drop-off: Saturdays:

September 27th
October 4th

9:00 AM—12:00 PM in Heritage Hall Help is needed on Donation Days

Newspapers and plastic bags are always appreciated.















We will be working in the Church Hall every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM beginning September 15th until the event. Any time you can give would be a great help, even an hour is a big help. You can set your own time and day. Thank you for all you do for our parish!

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