

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

WWW.STFRANCISALLENTOWN.ORG

FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM: @STFRANCISALLENTOWN



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 (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 November 16, 2025 is

*In Memory of
Frank & Emilia Artinger
By Bob & Milly Dietrick*

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. Names of those whom flowers are for and who they are from will be announced in the bulletin. Please call the church office with your intention, date requested and name of donor (610)-433-6102.



Choir Schedule

The choir will rehearse on Tuesday, November 18th at 6:30 PM in the choir loft. They will sing at 4:30 PM Mass on Saturday, November 22nd.



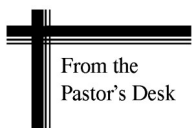
Men of St. Francis Meeting

The Men of St Francis will meet on Tuesday, November 18th at 7:00 PM in Heritage Hall. All men of the parish age 18 and over are welcome to attend. For additional info., contact Chuck Epler at 484-809-1275.



OCIA
Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

If you or anyone you know is interested in finding out how to become a Catholic, our OCIA meetings are held on Sundays at 11:30 AM in the Weekend Sacristy. For more information, contact Helen Moyer at 610-433-6102.



From the
Pastor's Desk

My dear parishioners,
I want to thank the many people who made Cooks with Collars and Attic Treasures a great success. We realized over \$10,000 and \$15,000 respectively. That really helped us with keeping the budget in balance. We will continue to offer various fundraisers to make ends meet at Saint Francis. We are now in the "Sweet Fudge Indulgence" sale for Christmas. Apparently, some parishioners missed it last year, when I wasn't here. So, it is back! It is a great stocking stuffer or maybe a treat for you!

As we move toward Thanksgiving, my heart is full of gratitude for all of you. My hope is that I continue to meet more people in our parish. If we have never talked, please spend a couple of seconds after Mass to chat. I would love to match names with faces.

If you are not yet a parishioner, I would encourage you to join the parish. The parish office staff can help you in doing so during the week and before or after weekend Masses.

May God bless you and your family.

Mass Schedule

Monday, November 17, 2025 Saint Elizabeth of Hungary
1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63; Lk 18:35-43

7:00 PM Joseph Koncsics

Tuesday, November 18th Dedication of the Basilica of
2 Mc 6:18-31; Lk 19:1-10 Saints Peter and Paul Apostles,

8:00 AM Edna Harwick Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne

Wednesday, November 19th

2 Mc 7:1, 20-31; Lk 19:11-28

8:00 AM Ed Granitz

Thursday, November 20th

1 Mc 2:15-29; Lk 19:41-44

8:00 AM Edna Mae Sweitzer

Friday, November 21st The Presentation of
1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59; Lk 19:45-48 the Blessed Virgin Mary

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

Saturday and Sunday, November 22nd & 23rd

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

2 Sm 5:1-3; Col 1:12-20; Lk 23:35-43

4:30 PM Krajnik & Giannelli Families

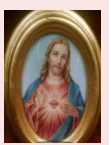
8:30 AM Louis & Catherine Zenz

10:30 AM Robert Tracey

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.



Feed Your Faith Holiday Orders

Stress-free Christmas shopping is here! On Monday, November 17th, gift card orders to Raise Right Scrip Center will go in for Christmas gifts and shopping every two weeks until Christmas. Orders must be prepaid and in the parish office by Monday noon on November 17th, December 1st and December 15th. Pick up by the following Friday or on the weekend after Mass. (Lists of available stores with order forms are in the Parish Office.)

John Rich



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.

Cleanup at Holy Savior/Resurrection Cemeteries

There is a general cleanup of the entire cemetery going on through November 17th at Resurrection Cemetery. Everything placed on the gravesites will be removed in preparation for Christmas. New flowers can be placed beginning November 17th at Holy Savior and November 24th at Resurrection.

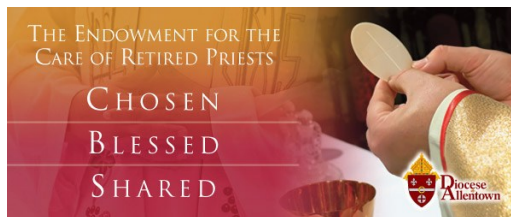
To Arrange for Christian Burial, contact:

Resurrection Cemetery—610-395-3819

Holy Savior Cemetery—610-866-2372

Prayer for Vocations

Eternal Father, thank you for all priests, here in our Parish and in our Diocese, and throughout the world. Thank you for the way they preach the Gospel, celebrate the Eucharist and care for Your people. Sanctify, heal and guide them. Incline them to constant Adoration and Thanksgiving. Mold them into the likeness of Your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest. Send your Holy Spirit to keep the joy and enthusiasm of their Ordination Day alive in their hearts. We ask you to bless our Bishop, our Priests and Seminarians of our Diocese. We ask for a special blessing on our Pastor, may his witness to Christ inspire other men to offer their lives to you and your Church. Amen.



Chosen, Blessed, Shared

The Diocese of Allentown is conducting an annual fund called, "Chosen, Blessed, Shared," to support the Endowment for the Card of Retired Priests. All gifts received will be used to support the rising costs of retirement card for those priests in good standing who have faithfully served, and the many who, though retired continue to serve, in our Diocese. Please consider making a donation as part of your yearly giving. This is not to be confused with our yearly collection for the "National Appeal for Retired Religious" to be held December 13 & 14, 2025.



Diocese of Allentown Youth Rally (Grades 7-12)

Bethlehem Catholic High School, 2133 Madison Avenue, Bethlehem, PA, Saturday, November 22nd, 10 AM to 5 PM. Join us for a day of inspiring presentations, heartfelt prayer, uplifting music and much more. Together with your peers you will celebrate the one true Light—Jesus Christ—and let His love "Reignite" you. Mass at 4 PM will be celebrated by Bishop Schlert. Families are invited to join. \$10/person, lunch included.
zhodgskin@allentowndiocese.org

A reminder, for your safety and well-being, please lock your car doors and keep any valuables out of sight before coming into Mass.



Allentown Central Catholic
OPEN HOUSE
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2-4PM



PRE-REGISTER FOR OUR OPEN HOUSE AND ENTER A CHANCE TO WIN A \$500 TUITION CREDIT FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR!

Meet our Principal and Administrators, tour the campus with our Student Ambassadors, and learn about our clubs and activities.

Contact our Admissions Director Lisa Schultz at lschultz@acchs.info with questions.

Academic Success. Catholic Values.

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

ENROLL TODAY FOR 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR!



Saint Francis of Assisi Parish

1.2K followers • 33 following

Prayers For Our Loved Ones

November is a profound month in the Catholic Church, often referred to as the "Month of the Holy Souls." This dedication highlights the importance of praying for those who have died.

For the month of November, join us in prayer for our loved ones who have passed on our social media platforms. Send your loved one's name(s) to Camille Stockdale at stockp8792@gmail.com and we will pray for a few each and every day together via social media through the end of November.

May we pray for one another.



Our Weekly Stewardship

Weekend of November 8th & 9th, 2025

Sunday in Pew \$ 5,135.00

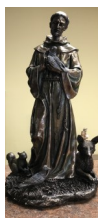
Sunday Online \$ 2,509.00

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 info.

John Patrick Publishing Company prints our weekly bulletin. To place ads on the back of our bulletin, contact Michele Barron, Account Representative, John Patrick Publishing Company, Cell 484-300-2062, www.jpccadvertising.com

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.



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.

Bringing Up The Gifts

If one of the Ushers approaches you at weekend Mass and asks you to carry the Offertory Gifts to the altar, please consider doing so. We would like to get as many parishioners involved as possible to participate in this. If the Mass is being said for your family member, please see the Ushers before Mass to let them know that you will be taking the gifts up at the Offertory.

Wee Worship Bags Will be Available Soon for Our Parish Children

Our Wee Worship Ministry will soon have quiet activity bags for toddlers and preschool aged children to borrow and use during Masses. These bags are designed to serve as tools to help them learn about their faith while keeping them occupied as your family participates in the liturgy; We kindly ask that you return the bag and it's contents to the designated space after Mass so others can enjoy for the next Mass.



Liturgical Ministers Schedule

Saturday and Sunday, November 22nd & 23rd

	<u>4:30 PM</u>	<u>8:30AM</u>	<u>10:30 AM</u>
Lector	J. Fittipaldi	T. McGinley	M. Seltzer
Eucharistic Ministers	J. DeLeo, V. Herman, M. Evans, L. Unger (C)	T. Racek, J. & P. Philapavage	M. Dietrick, B. Ocasio, J. Young
Cantor	Choir	M. Maramag	G. Rodriguez
Organist	R. Venditto	D. Badesso	D. Badesso
Altar Servers	-----	C. Piersza	V. Huynh
Sacristan	J. DeLeo	T. Jacob	T. Jacob

Wednesday, November 26th (Thanksgiving Eve)

7:00 PM

Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server	Cantor	Organist	Sacristan
H. Moyer	E. Frankenfield	T. Bauer	A. Eaves	D. Badesso	L. Moser

PARISH PHONE DIRECTORY

BUSINESS MANAGER

Dennis Reichard 610-433-6102 ext 34
dreichard@stfrancisallentown.org

BULLETIN

Stephanie Epler 610-433-6102 ext 10
sepler@stfrancisallentown.org

CHOIR DIRECTOR/ORGANIST

Rosanne Venditto 484-225-2080

EVANGELIZATION COMMITTEE

Paula Rollins 484-241-1986

"FEED YOUR FAITH" GIFT CARD PROGRAM

Stephanie Epler 610-433-6102
sepler@stfrancisallentown.org

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Fr. Richard Brensinger 610-433-6102
rbrensinger@allentowndiocese.org

LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE

Donna Gerancher 610-433-6102 ext 15
dgerancher@stfrancisallentown.org

MEN OF ST. FRANCIS

Chuck Epler 484-809-1275

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults)

Helen Moyer 610-439-0922

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Michelle Evans 610-737-9469

PARISH OFFICE

610-433-6102

PARISH LIFE COORDINATOR

Donna Gerancher 610-433-6102 ext 15
dgerancher@stfrancisallentown.org

PARISH NURSES

Barbara Puzzella, RN 610-433-6102

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Helen Moyer 610-439-0922
sfaPPC18@gmail.com

PARISH SECRETARY

Stephanie Epler 610-433-6102 ext 10
sepler@stfrancisallentown.org

PASTOR

Fr. Richard Brensinger 610-433-6102

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Donna Sciacca (Cathedral) 610-432-7655
prep@cathedral-church.org

SANCTUARY MEMORIAL FUND

Anne Palmisano 610-433-6102

SENIOR CITIZENS GROUP

Madeline Klotz 610-395-7386

ST. JOHN VIANNEY REGIONAL SCHOOL

Matthew Carlin, Principal 610-435-8981

WEBSITE

Camille Stockdale 610-433-6102
stockp8792@gmail.com

WELCOMING COMMITTEE

Theresa Racek 610-428-0708

WOMEN WALKING IN FAITH

Michelle Evans 610-737-9469

"Feed Your Faith" Gift Card Program

"Feed Your Faith" is the Parish's easiest fund-raising program. It costs you nothing extra, but it benefits the Parish immensely! Each gift card you buy has a return of 1% to 14% profit to the parish. **The number in parenthesis represents the percentage of profit the Parish makes.** Please consider buying the gift cards to do your grocery shopping, give as gifts, or just to purchase instead of using cash at the retailers. Please see the list below for our participating retailers. *These gift cards are usually available every day in the Parish Office!*



Amazon.com (2%): \$25, \$50, \$100

Applebees (8%): \$10, \$25

Banana Republic (14%): \$25

Barnes and Nobles (8%): \$10, \$25

Bath and Body Works (12%): \$10, \$25

Bonefish Grill (10%): \$25

Boscov's (8%): \$25

Carrabbas (10%): \$25

Cheesecake Factory (5%): \$25

Dunkin Donuts (3%): \$10

Gap (14%): \$25

Giant (10%): \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50, \$100

Home Depot (4%): \$25, \$100

Kohl's (4%): \$10, \$25

Longhorn Steakhouse (8%): \$25

Lowe's (4%): \$25, \$100

Macy's (10%): \$25

McDonald's (2%): \$25, \$10

Old Navy (14%): \$25

Olive Garden (8%): \$25

Outback Steakhouse (10%): \$25

Panera Bread (8%): \$10

Red Robin (8%): \$25

Red Lobster (8%): \$25

Redner's Warehouse (5%): \$25, \$50, \$100

Sam's Club (2.5%): \$25, \$100

Starbucks (4.5%): \$10

Target (2.5%): \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100

Texas Roadhouse (8%): \$25

Visa (1.25%): \$25, \$50, \$100 (no activation fee!)

Wal-Mart (2.5%): \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100

Wawa (1%): \$25

Wegman's (5%): \$25, \$50, \$100

Weis (5%): \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50, \$100



Saint Francis of Assisi

sweet fudge

INDULGENCE SALE

ITEM	PRICE	x	QTY	=	COST
CHOCOLATE FUDGE (11 OZ.)	\$ 12.00	x		=	
CHOCOLATE FUDGE WITH WALNUTS (11 OZ.)	13.00	x		=	
PEANUT BUTTER FUDGE (11 OZ.)	12.00	x		=	
CHRISTMAS PRETZEL RODS (3 PACK)	5.00	x		=	
			TOTAL	=	

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

RETURN ENTIRE COMPLETED FORM & PAYMENT IN AN ENVELOPE MARKED "FUDGE" VIA COLLECTION BASKET, OFFICE MAIL SLOT OR PARISH OFFICE. CASH OR CHECKS MADE PAYABLE TO SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI.

ORDERS MUST BE IN BY DECEMBER 7, 2025.

PICKUP AT THE PARISH BEGINNING DECEMBER 20.

DELICIOUS
CHRISTMAS
GIFT IDEA!



Turkey Donations

The Outreach Committee will be providing Turkey Dinners again this year for Thanksgiving to those in need. If you are interested in donating a turkey or gift card, please contact the parish office or Michelle Evans 610-737-9469. Deadline: November 22nd. We are so grateful for the continued support of our work, God Bless you all!

Rachel's Vineyard: Healing Retreat from Abortion

Are you struggling from an abortion? Whether you were pressured into an abortion, were unable to prevent a family member from having one, or you were a part of the abortion decision, this retreat will help you move beyond any guilt, shame, or anger you have. Our weekend retreats are uniquely designed to help you experience the mercy and compassion of God in a safe, confidential, non-judgmental group environment. This weekend will help you find a new voice and transform the pain of the past into hope. Discover peace and healing. When: November 21-23, 2025 in Washington, NJ. To register, or for more information, please contact Leah by email at leah@soulfilledbygrace.co. site or text / call (609)709-3479 Ana at ana@soulfilledbygrace.co. site or text/call (908)319-2950. Website is rachelsvineyard.org.

O, Come, All Ye Faithful to 'It's Almost Christmas' at Cathedral

Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, 18th & Turner Streets, Allentown ~ 610-433-6461, Saturday (10AM-6PM) & Sunday (8:30AM-1PM), November 22nd & 23rd ~ Bazaar (Location: Parish Activity Center below the Church. Theme Baskets, Bake Sale, Craft Tables, Stocking Stuffers, Oplatki, Silent Auction, Refreshments, 50/50 Raffle, Strolling Carolers. Menu this year again includes home made pierogies, halushki, egg rolls, breakfast sandwiches, and other delicious items! Proceeds benefit Cathedral Capital Improvements Fund.

Mass of Remembrance at St. Ann's, Emmaus

The 15th Annual Holiday Mass of Remembrance will be held on Saturday, December 6th at St. Ann Church, Emmaus. Join us to celebrate the lives of your departed loved ones in the midst of the busy holiday season. All are invited to honor your deceased beloved in prayer, with their name/s read beginning at 12:45 p.m., followed by the mass. A light reception and fellowship will follow the mass in the school cafeteria. Enrollment of names may be done through the "Mass of Remembrance" link on the parish website: www.churchstann.org. For further information, please contact Mary Helen at 610-462-4551.