

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

WWW.STFRANCISALLENTOWN.ORG

FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM: @STFRANCISALLENTOWN

THIS WEEK! MARCH 10, 11, & 12 @ 7PM THE CROSS OF CHRIST OUR LORD

SUNDAY—THE NECESSITY OF THE CROSS:
OUR SIN AND HIS MERCY
NIGHT OF RECONCILIATION

MONDAY—THE ETERNAL SACRIFICE
OF THE CROSS AND THE MASS
NIGHT OF COMMUNITY

TUESDAY—TAKE UP YOUR CROSS AND
FOLLOW ME
NIGHT OF ADORATION



GUEST HOMILIST FOR EACH EVENING WILL BE FATHER JOHN MARIA, PASTOR OF SAINT MARY PARISH, KUTZTOWN

Priests

Reverend Richard C. Brensinger, Pastor
Reverend Kevin M. Gualano, In Residence

Permanent Deacon

Deacon Robert Young

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 & 12:15 PM

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.

March 10, 2024 Fourth Sunday of Lent

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

The Sanctuary Lamp Memorial for the week
March 10, 2024 is
In Memory of Emilia Ilagan
By Larry & Conchita Moser

Choir Schedule

The Choir will rehearse on Tuesday, March 12th at 6:30 PM in the choir loft.



Children of Our Parish Attending Religious Education WHO RECEIVED THE SACRAMENTS THIS YEAR, you are invited to attend a special Mass on June 2, 2024 at 10:30 AM, followed by a "social" in Heritage Hall. Look for details from Mrs. Ocasio and/or Mrs. Stockdale SOON!!!

Sanctuary Memorial Fund

We acknowledge these contributions in memory of:

Mary Jane Bernhard

by: The Lathrop Family & David, Bonnie & Tavian Danas

Sister Marie Juliana Damhosl

by: Bill & Jean Kakareka

Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord

St. Francis Senior Citizens Meeting

On Tuesday, March 12th, the Senior Citizens will meet at 1:00 PM in Heritage Hall for a short meeting, Bingo and cards, weather permitting. For info, call Madeline Klotz at 610-395-7386.

Attention All Women!

"Women Walking in Faith"

Our group of faith-filled women will meet on Wednesday, March 13th at 7:00 PM in Heritage Hall. Please note that WWF will be having a Christmas get together, all are welcome, bring your favorite appetizer or dessert! Women 18 and over are invited to participate. Guests are welcome so don't hesitate to ask your friends and neighbors. Call Michelle Evans 610-737-9469 with questions.



St. Francis of Assisi Night at Coca-Cola Park



Mark your calendar for Friday June 21, 2024 to see AAA Baseball between the Lehigh Valley Ironpigs (Phillies) and the Norfolk Tides (Orioles). Enjoy the game, the Picnic Buffet and post-game Fireworks Display with family, friends and fellow parishioners.

Hearing Devices Are Now Available

We are pleased to announce that our new *Listen Hearing Devices* are available to sign out while you are attending Mass. They will be kept at the Parish Office and can be signed out and borrowed on your way into Mass. They must be returned immediately after Mass.



Mass Schedule

Monday, March 11, 2024

Is 65:17-21; Jn 4:43-54

7:00 PM Mary Lee Schibel

Tuesday, March 12th

Ez 47: 1-9, 12; Jn 5:1-16

8:00 AM Anna Kantner

Wednesday, March 13th

Is 49:8-15; Jn 5:17-30

8:00 AM James Glenister

Thursday, March 14th

Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47

8:00 AM Paul P. Yost

Friday, March 15th

Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

8:00 AM Theresa J. Pinter

Saturday and Sunday, March 16th & 17th

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Jer 31:31-34; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33 (35)

4:30 PM Robert Racek, Jr.

8:30 AM Phyllis & Karl Dunst

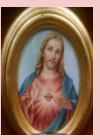
People of Saint Francis

10:30 AM Rose Kennedy

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.

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will be offered twice each Friday through March 22nd at 11:30 AM and 7:00 PM. (On Good Friday, March 29th, at 7:00 PM only.)



ENROLL TODAY FOR 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR!



Outstanding academic opportunities in a faith-filled community!

Scan the QR code to take a virtual tour of our campus!

Love what you see? Call or email to schedule an in-person visit!

Contact Cara Meskill, Director of Admissions at 610-437-4601 x148 or cmeskill@acchs.info. Financial aid and scholarships are available.



Academic Success. Catholic Values.

301 N Fourth Street, Allentown, PA 18102

(610) 437-4601 | www.acchs.info





- 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!

We're Hiring! Join our Team!

St. John Vianney Regional School is looking to fill the following positions for the 2023-2024 School Year:
 STEM Teacher
 Daily Substitute Teachers
 Extended Care Assistants

If you are interested in joining our dedicated and talented team, please contact Mrs. Beth Serrano, St. John Vianney Regional School Principal at mrserrano@stjohnvianney-school.org or 610-435-8981.

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.

Movie Club



Join us for Movie Club on April 7th at 3:30 PM (doors open) 4:00 PM showing of **Jules**. **THERE IS NO MOVIE ON MARCH 17TH**, due to circumstances beyond our control. A man's quiet life gets upended when a UFO crashes in his backyard in rural Pennsylvania. As he befriends the mysterious extraterrestrial, things start to get complicated when two neighbors discover it and the government quickly closes in. 84% score on Rotten Tomatoes. All are welcome! Join us for the film, free popcorn, soda and other snacks – and most importantly FUN and FELLOWSHIP.

Walk with us, St. John Vianney Regional School, at the 65th St. Patrick's Parade 

SUNDAY MARCH 17TH AT 1:30 PM



AT THE ALLENTOWN FAIRGROUNDS
 SCAN QR CODE TO SIGN UP

ST. JOHN VIANNEY REGIONAL SCHOOL




PRESCHOOL

In Faith - Celebrating Today, Embracing Tomorrow!

Enroll your 4-5 year old child in our enriched full-day preschool program! We provide a healthy, safe, spiritual, and educational environment that is filled with opportunities for social interaction, fun, and learning.

Receive a \$1,000 Scholarship!
 Apply today for our Preschool program!
 Catholic Mission. Traditional Values. Scholarships Available.

Visit StJohnVianneySchool.org | Call Us: 610.435.8981 | 210 N 18th Street, Allentown, PA 18104

 **MERCY SCHOOL** FOR SPECIAL LEARNING

Mercy School For Special Learning is currently accepting applications for the 2024-2025 school year. Mercy is a school in the Diocese of Allentown that educates students ages 3 - 21 with special needs. If you are interested in learning more about Mercy please call the office at 610-797-8242 or email Beth Grys, Principal, at bgrys@mercyschool.org.

Liturgical Ministers Schedule		
Saturday and Sunday, March 16th & 17th		
	<u>4:30 PM</u>	<u>8:30AM</u>
Lector	P. Stiles	M. Issermoyer
Eucharistic Ministers	E. Wascavage, G. Rodriguez	D. Issermoyer, N. Lamparella
Cantor	J. Fignar	D. Lamparella
Organist	D. Badesso	R. Venditto
Altar Servers		
Sacristan	J. DeLeo	P. McFadden
		<u>10:30 AM</u>
		M. Seltzer
		C. Wargo, E. Frankenfield
		A. Huynh
		D. Badesso
		V. Huynh, J. Martinez
		P. McFadden

Basket Raffle

New pricing for tickets in 2024!!!
 Yes, that's right. For our May 18th and 19th Basket Raffle Event – you can purchase a sheet of tickets for \$10! You can purchase 3 sheets for \$20!!! Just when it seems like prices have been raised on EVERYTHING – St. Francis is lowering their prices. Mark your calendars NOW so you don't miss out on this incredible event!!!



DeSales University

DeSales University is pleased to invite you to the Joan & Deacon R. Wayne Kraft Memorial Lecture on Monday, March 18th at 6:30 PM at DeSales University in the Connelly Chapel. Distinguished DeSales University alumna, Sister Iliia Delio OFM, will present “Brave New Church: Artificial Intelligence, Faith, and the Future of Christian Life”. A talk about Teilhard de Chardin’s belief that technology was the natural evolution of thought, consistent with the Christian tradition and beckoning us to embrace a “brave new” way of living. Sister Delio is the Josephine C. Connelly Endowed Chair in Theology at Villanova University. She is the author of 20 books. Questions: Sylvia Doyle 610-282-1100 ext. 1307 Please RSVP by **March 11th**. Seating is limited. Register: <https://engage.desales.edu/register/Kraft2024>.



Food Pantry

The Saint Francis of Assisi Food Pantry will be open to the public on Wednesday, March 13th from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM, in the Franciscan Center (former Convent.)

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



For the Diocesan survey that Deacon Bob spoke about - the link is:
<https://portal.catholicleaders.org/dmi/survey/byxd15>

This survey is a first step in the Next Generation Diocese journey. The purpose of this survey is to make OUR PARISH the best it can be. As awesome as our Saint Francis parish is, improvement is always a good thing. The Diocese of Allentown has partnered with the Catholic Leadership Institute (CLI), a lay apostolate headquartered just outside of Philadelphia that inspires Catholic leaders to revitalize the Church for a Christ-filled and joy-filled future through a close accompaniment. There is no cost to you or our parish. The goal is to make our parish a renewed place of worship, prayer, holiness and welcome. Another goal is make our Diocese a place of evangelization where disciples are formed. Additionally, this Disciple Maker Index will help YOU find ways to make an impact. The survey should take you 10 to 15 minutes to complete. We hope you are able to join us in making St. Francis, our Diocese and our own selves the best we can be.

"Make me an instrument of your peace."
 Francis of Assisi



Our Weekly Stewardship

Weekend of March 2nd & 3rd

Sunday in Pew \$ 4,242.00
 Sunday Online \$ 2,378.90

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.

Pray, Fast, Give Through Operation Rice Bowl This Lent

Operation Rice Bowl, an annual giving program that began in the Diocese of Allentown 49 years ago, is a great way to answer the Church's call for almsgiving during Lent. Families eat a simple meal one day a week, and give the money they would have spent on a more elaborate meal to Operation Rice Bowl. One-quarter of the funds remain in the Diocese to help those in need locally, and the balance is contributed to hunger relief efforts nationwide and in 100 countries around the world, distributed by Catholic Relief Services. Rice Bowl boxes are available in the church vestibule and in the Parish Office.



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.



Disciple Maker Index

portal.catholicleaders.org/1/aa3kaa

Step 1: Follow the link or scan the QR code

Step 2: Find your parish and click on the survey link for your individual parish





It's the
Saint Francis of Assisi



LENTEN FISH DINNER

JOIN OTHER MEMBERS OF THE SAINT FRANCIS COMMUNITY AND OUR NEIGHBORS

FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 2024

FROM 4:30 -6:30 PM FOR A GREAT FISH MEAL



Meals Include:

Baked Haddock, Tossed Salad, Green Beans,
Mac & Cheese, Stewed Tomatoes
Coffee, Tea, Water OR Soda

Kids Meals – Fish Sticks and Mac & Cheese

ALL for the price of:

\$15 Adults, \$10 Youth (12-18 yrs.), \$7 Kids (under 12)



FISH DINNER ORDER FORM

March 22, 2024

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

Please place the number of meals purchasing and totals on the lines below:

Adults _____ X \$15 = \$ _____

Youth (12-18 yrs) _____ X \$10 = \$ _____

Kids (under 12) _____ X \$7 = \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

RETURN BOTTOM PORTION OF FORM & PAYMENT IN AN ENVELOPE MARKED "FISH" VIA COLLECTION BASKET, OFFICE MAIL SLOT OR PARISH OFFICE. CASH OR CHECKS MADE PAYABLE TO SAINT FRANCIS.

RESERVATIONS DUE NO LATER THAN MARCH 17, 2024.

A LIMITED NUMBER OF MEALS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON A FIRST COME BASIS.

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH HOMEMADE CHOCOLATE EASTER EGG SALE

PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2024
Pick-up 9am - 12 NOON

**ORDERS MUST BE IN BY
SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2024**
NO ORDERS TAKEN AFTER MARCH 17, 2024.



ITEM	SIZE	PRICE	X	QTY	=	COST
PEANUT BUTTER EGGS — MILK CHOCOLATE	1 lb	\$ 19.00	X		=	
PEANUT BUTTER EGGS — MILK CHOCOLATE	1/2 lb	11.00	X		=	
PEANUT BUTTER EGGS — DARK CHOCOLATE	1 lb	19.00	X		=	
PEANUT BUTTER EGGS — DARK CHOCOLATE	1/2 lb	11.00	X		=	
COCONUT CREAM EGGS — MILK CHOCOLATE	1 lb	19.00	X		=	
COCONUT CREAM EGGS — MILK CHOCOLATE	1/2 lb	11.00	X		=	
COCONUT CREAM EGGS — DARK CHOCOLATE	1 lb	19.00	X		=	
COCONUT CREAM EGGS — DARK CHOCOLATE	1/2 lb	11.00	X		=	
BUTTER CREAM EGGS — MILK CHOCOLATE	1 lb	19.00	X		=	
BUTTER CREAM EGGS — MILK CHOCOLATE	1/2 lb	11.00	X		=	
BUTTER CREAM EGGS — DARK CHOCOLATE	1 lb	19.00	X		=	
BUTTER CREAM EGGS — DARK CHOCOLATE	1/2 lb	11.00	X		=	
PEANUT ROLLED WITH PEANUT BUTTER CENTER — MILK CHOCOLATE	1 lb	21.00	X		=	
PEANUT ROLLED WITH PEANUT BUTTER CENTER — MILK CHOCOLATE	1/2 lb	12.00	X		=	
PEANUT ROLLED WITH PEANUT BUTTER CENTER — DARK CHOCOLATE	1 lb	21.00	X		=	
PEANUT ROLLED WITH PEANUT BUTTER CENTER — DARK CHOCOLATE	1/2 lb	12.00	X		=	
PEANUT ROLLED WITH BUTTER CREAM CENTER — MILK CHOCOLATE	1 lb	21.00	X		=	
PEANUT ROLLED WITH BUTTER CREAM CENTER — MILK CHOCOLATE	1/2 lb	12.00	X		=	
PEANUT ROLLED WITH BUTTER CREAM CENTER —DARK CHOCOLATE	1 lb	21.00	X		=	
PEANUT ROLLED WITH BUTTER CREAM CENTER —DARK CHOCOLATE	1/2 lb	12.00	X		=	
NOTE: ALL PEANUT ITEMS WILL BE PREPARED SEPARATELY, SO THERE WILL BE NO CROSS-CONTAMINATION.					TL \$	

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

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