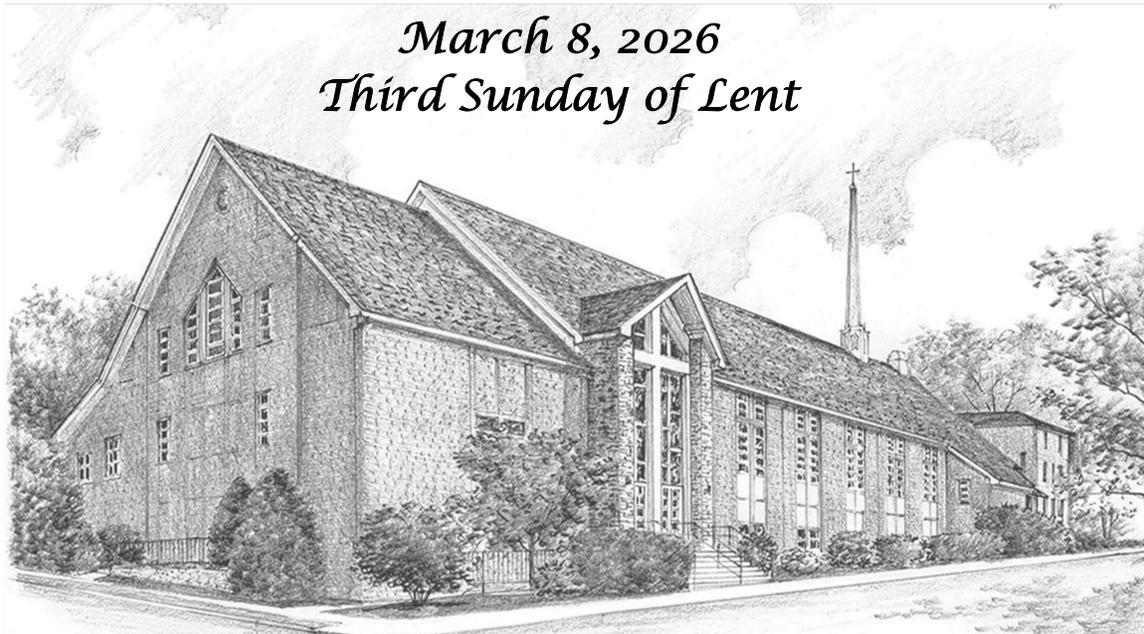


SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

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 - 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 March 8, 2026 is
In Memory of Msgr. Dennis A. Rigney
By Larry and Conchita Moser**



The Outreach Committee is currently accepting cash and gift card donations (\$50 value) for the 2nd Annual Lucky Bingo. Contributions may be dropped off to the Parish Office during regular business hours. Thank you!!



Movie Club

What a perfect film for Lent—THE SHROUD ENCOUNTER. We are scheduled for THIS SUNDAY, MARCH 8TH, AFTER 10:30 AM MASS.

We will have our normal popcorn, sodas, candy FOR FREE - AND offer pizza to purchase to enjoy as your lunch - OR you can bring your own bagged lunch with you. MOVIE WILL START SHOWING AT NOON. All are welcome!!!! We can seat up to 50 in Heritage Hall so we have not publicized it much outside of the parish family - BUT feel free to invite your friends.

Choir Schedule

The choir will practice on Tuesday, March 10th at 6:30 PM in the Daily Mass Chapel.



Sanctuary Memorial Fund

We acknowledge this contribution in memory of:
Julia Ezzo

by: Colleen O'Hare
Eternal rest, grant unto her, O Lord

St. Francis Senior Citizens Meeting

On Tuesday, March 10th, the Senior Citizens will meet at 1:00 PM in Heritage Hall for their monthly meeting, weather permitting. For info, call Madeline Klotz at 610-395-7386.



Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will be offered each Friday of Lent through Good Friday, April 3rd, at 7:00 PM. In addition, Confessions will be heard on Friday nights from 6:00 - 6:45 PM.

Mass Schedule

Monday, March 9, 2026

Saint Frances of Rome

2 Kgs 5:1-15ab; Lk 4:24-30

7:00 PM People of Saint Francis of Assisi Parish

Tuesday, March 10th

Dn 3:25, 34-43; Mt 18:21-35

8:00 AM Nicholas Troccola

Wednesday, March 11th

Dt 4:1, 5-9; Mt 5:17-19

8:00 AM Intentions of Daphne Alexis (in Thanksgiving)

Thursday, March 12th

Jer 7:23-28; Lk 11:14-23

8:00 AM Anita Schlosser

Friday, March 13th

Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34

8:00 AM Colonel David Wayne Sharp

Saturday and Sunday, March 14th & 15th

Fourth Sunday of Lent

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41

4:30 PM Eugene "Rik" Hafeman

8:30 AM Theresa J. Pinter

10:30 AM Emilia Ilagan

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.



Food Pantry

The Outreach Committee's Food Pantry will be open to the public on Wednesday, March 11th from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM, in the Franciscan Center (former Convent.)

Attention All Women! "Women Walking in Faith"

Our group of faith-filled women will meet on Wednesday, March 11th at 7:00 PM in Heritage Hall. All 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.



Join Us On Friday, March 27th For Our Lenten Fish Dinner

4:30 TO 6:30 PM

\$15 for adults, \$10 for kids, \$5 for 5 and under

Menu: Baked Haddock; Green Beans; Homemade Mac & Cheese; Stewed Tomatoes, salad, dessert;



coffee; soda; tea. We will have fish sticks for the little ones! RSVP to the Parish Office no later than March 23, 2026 (pay at the door.) Plan to stay and attend Stations of the Cross!



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.



February Winter Weekend Raffle Winners

- February 1st \$500 - Jim & Susan Steiner
 - February 7th \$50 - Anne E. Palmisano
 - February 8th \$100 - Sam Kalny
 - February 14th \$50 - Eve Damiano
 - February 15th \$100 - Judith Schwab
 - February 21st \$50 - Joanne & Vinny Quinn
 - February 22nd \$100 - Rosanne Venditto
 - February 28th \$50 - Myra Schuster
- Tickets can still be purchased in the Parish Office if you'd like to get in on the March drawings.
Congratulations to our February winners!!!



VOCATION MINISTRY March 8, 2026
 Vocations Ministry

"Whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst." John 4:14)

Only Jesus can satisfy the deepest desires of our hearts. When we encounter Him, our lives overflow with the living water of grace. Some are called to share that grace as priests, religious brothers or sisters, or consecrated virgins. Could God be inviting you to share His living water with others? Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 610-437-0755 or via email: jmaria@allentowndiocese.org

St. Francis of Assisi Outreach Committee Presents

LUCKY
 Cash and Gift Card BINGO

Donations Are Appreciated!

BINGO!

Sunday, March 15, 2026
 St. Francis of Assisi Parish Hall
 Doors Open at 12:00 PM—Bingo starts at 1:00PM

Ticket Price: \$25 In Advance, \$30 At the Door
 Tickets available in the Parish Office
 20 Games, plus Specials

Cash & Gift Card Prizes range from \$25-\$100
 50/50 drawing—Irish "Basket of Cheer" Raffle

Food, soda & water available for purchase
 (No Outside Food or Drinks)

Bingo proceeds to benefit the St. Francis of Assisi Outreach Committee to continue our efforts of assisting those in need in the Lehigh Valley

Liturgical Ministers Schedule
Saturday and Sunday, March 14th & 15th

	<u>4:30 PM</u>	<u>8:30AM</u>	<u>10:30 AM</u>
Lector	P. Stiles	B. Beck	J. Carrasquillo
Eucharistic Ministers	J. Fittipaldi, H. Moyer, M. Evans	F. & J. Lenahan, P. Baker	J. Young, B. Ocasio, L. Moser
Cantor	A. Eaves	M. Issermoyer	G. Rodriguez
Organist	D. Badesso	R. Venditto	D. Badesso
Altar Servers	V. Herman, M. Joliffe	C. Piersza	N. Schwenk
Sacristan	J. DeLeo	T. Jacob	T. Jacob



Our Weekly Stewardship

Weekend of February 28th & March 1st

Sunday in Pew \$ 4,699.00

Sunday Online \$ 2,319.00

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.

Cemetery Cleanup

There is a general cleanup of the entire cemetery on the following dates: March 9th at Holy Savior Cemetery and March 16th at Resurrection Cemetery. Everything placed on the gravesites will be removed in preparation for Easter. New flowers can be placed beginning March 16th at Holy Savior and March 23rd at Resurrection Cemeteries.

St. Monica Ministry Holy Hour

A St. Monica Ministry Holy Hour of Petition and Hope will take place at St. Theresa Church (1408 Easton Road, Hellertown) on Tuesday, March 10th at 6:00 PM. Presiding will be Rev. Christopher Zelonis, pastor of Ss. Peter and Paul Parish, Lehighton. Please come join in prayer for the return of Catholics who have left the Church. For more information on the St. Monica Ministry, please call the St. Theresa rectory at 610-838-7045 or email Celeste at StMonica-Ministry27@gmail.com.

Men's Morning of Reflection: Authentic Masculinity

Men of the Diocese of Allentown are invited to a Men's Morning of Reflection on Saturday, March 14, 2026, from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Marian Catholic High School, Tamaqua. Centered on Theology of the Body, this free event will explore authentic masculinity through the teachings of St. John Paul II. The morning includes Mass, coffee, and donuts, along with presentations by Hannah Shafer, Assistant Director of Programs at the Theology of the Body Institute, and Fr. Nikolai Brelinisky, Parochial Vicar at St. Joseph the Worker Parish, Orefield. All men are encouraged to attend for a morning of prayer, fellowship, and reflection. Registration is free and required. Register at <https://allentowndioocese.flocknote.com/signup/241012>.

Men of St. Francis Meeting

The Men of St Francis will meet on Tuesday, March 17th 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.



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



Come Walk With Me

Come Walk With Me, a Lenten Reconciliation Service, offers a time of reflection on the Gospels, while meditating on music and experiencing the presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. Renowned Irish Tenor, Mark Forrest, will take us through a beautiful evening of music and spiritual reflection on our personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Please join us on Wednesday, March 18th at 6:30 PM, at Queenship of Mary Church, 1324 Newport Avenue, Northampton. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available, along with Eucharistic Adoration.

Theology on Tap

"Reflections on G. K. Chesterton" Theology on Tap for young adults ages 21-39, St. Joseph the Worker, Orefield, social hall, Thursday, March 19th, 7-9:00 PM, with Joseph Grabowski from Society of Gilbert Keith Chesterton, food and drink offered, zhodgskin@allentowndioocese.org

Women's Discernment Group

Women of the Diocese of Allentown, ages 18-40, are invited to a Women's Discernment Group to pray, be in community, and learn more about the Vocations of marriage and religious life. Includes Adoration, a talk on vocations, pizza, and fellowship. Held every 4th Friday of the month. Next date: Friday, March 27th at 5:30 p.m. Location is St. Theresa Convent, 1408 Easton Rd., Hellertown, PA 18055 (Park in school parking lot, Entrance on Wilson Ave).

We Are Remembered Mass **Wednesday, April 8, 2026, 7:00 PM** **St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Whitehall, PA**

As we prepare to mark the 35th Year of the "We Are Remembered Ministry", we invite you to gather and celebrate our Annual Easter Mass. The Ministry has returned to St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church in Whitehall and the parish family is delighted to welcome our guests to remember and celebrate the lives of so many of our loved ones who have passed on. Please indicate on the enrollment form if you plan on joining us for this very special Liturgy.

We minister and welcome all who mourn the death and passing of a loved one. As a sponsor, it is important that you enroll the name of your loved one (s) each year. This will ensure their inclusion in the enrollment list appearing in the AD Today after the Anniversary Mass. As always, "The Book of Remembered" will be available for your remembrances from 6 - 6:50 PM and again after the Mass.

We ask a \$5 donation for each name enrolled to cover expenses. Every name submitted will be enrolled regardless of donation.

Save The Date!!!



Our St Francis Basket Raffle is BACK!!!
Join us the weekend of May 30th and 31st.
TIMES – TBD
There will be numerous baskets to bid on –
SOMETHING for everyone in your family!
Raffle Tickets will be on Sale in April in the Parish
Office.
Food available for purchase - dine in or take out!
A ST FRANCIS EVENT IS ALWAYS A WIN !!!



Shutterbug Wanted!!!

Do you attend lots of our parish events? Do you enjoy photography? If so, we could use your help. Our social media team would love to be everywhere, all the time but sometimes we just cannot. All you have to do is take a photo or two with your phone and text them over! If you would like to help out occasionally by taking photos, contact Camille Stockdale at 484-547-6270 or stockp8792@gmail.com. No experience necessary (as evidenced by our current photos!).

Bus Trip - "Hairspray"

Thursday, April 30th, "Hair Spray", Fulton Theatre and Shady Maple. \$146 covers transportation, meal, show and driver tip. **Deadline March 28th.**
Based on the 1988 film, winner of 8 Tony Awards, it is a musical set in 1960's Baltimore chronicling Tracy Turnblad's desire to dance on "The Corny Collins Show". The songs include 1960's style dance music & rhythm & blues. Leave from Calvary Temple parking lot 9:30AM, Home 6:30 PM.
RESERVATIONS: JOANNE RICHARDS 610-398-0981 (jettrips@icloud.com) 4394 Meadow Lane, Allentown, Pa. 18104. Checks payable to PASR/LC. Include names, address, phone, email & name of trip. Your check is your reservation. Inquire about parking liability release form.

2025 Contribution Statements

2025 Contribution Statements were automatically mailed to all who donated \$250 or more. If you need a contribution statement mailed to you for a total less than \$250, please call the Parish Office to request.

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	
Kate McFadden	610-737-7232
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

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH HOMEMADE CHOCOLATE EASTER EGG SALE

PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2026
Pick-up 9am - 12 NOON

**ORDERS MUST BE IN BY
SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2026**
NO ORDERS TAKEN AFTER MARCH 15, 2026.



ITEM	SIZE	PRICE	X	QTY	=	COST
PEANUT BUTTER EGGS — MILK CHOCOLATE	1 lb	\$ 20.00	X		=	
PEANUT BUTTER EGGS — MILK CHOCOLATE	1/2 lb	12.00	X		=	
PEANUT BUTTER EGGS — DARK CHOCOLATE	1 lb	20.00	X		=	
PEANUT BUTTER EGGS — DARK CHOCOLATE	1/2 lb	12.00	X		=	
COCONUT CREAM EGGS — MILK CHOCOLATE	1 lb	20.00	X		=	
COCONUT CREAM EGGS — MILK CHOCOLATE	1/2 lb	12.00	X		=	
COCONUT CREAM EGGS — DARK CHOCOLATE	1 lb	20.00	X		=	
COCONUT CREAM EGGS — DARK CHOCOLATE	1/2 lb	12.00	X		=	
BUTTER CREAM EGGS — MILK CHOCOLATE	1 lb	20.00	X		=	
BUTTER CREAM EGGS — MILK CHOCOLATE	1/2 lb	12.00	X		=	
BUTTER CREAM EGGS — DARK CHOCOLATE	1 lb	20.00	X		=	
BUTTER CREAM EGGS — DARK CHOCOLATE	1/2 lb	12.00	X		=	
PEANUT ROLLED WITH PEANUT BUTTER CENTER — MILK CHOCOLATE	1 lb	22.00	X		=	
PEANUT ROLLED WITH PEANUT BUTTER CENTER — MILK CHOCOLATE	1/2 lb	13.00	X		=	
PEANUT ROLLED WITH PEANUT BUTTER CENTER — DARK CHOCOLATE	1 lb	22.00	X		=	
PEANUT ROLLED WITH PEANUT BUTTER CENTER — DARK CHOCOLATE	1/2 lb	13.00	X		=	
PEANUT ROLLED WITH BUTTER CREAM CENTER — MILK CHOCOLATE	1 lb	22.00	X		=	
PEANUT ROLLED WITH BUTTER CREAM CENTER — MILK CHOCOLATE	1/2 lb	13.00	X		=	
PEANUT ROLLED WITH BUTTER CREAM CENTER —DARK CHOCOLATE	1 lb	22.00	X		=	
PEANUT ROLLED WITH BUTTER CREAM CENTER —DARK CHOCOLATE	1/2 lb	13.00	X		=	
<i>NOTE: ALL PEANUT ITEMS WILL BE PREPARED SEPARATELY, SO THERE WILL BE NO CROSS-CONTAMINATION.</i>					TL	
					\$	

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

RETURN ENTIRE COMPLETED FORM & PAYMENT IN AN ENVELOPE MARKED "EASTER EGGS" VIA
FATHER RICH OR MAIL TO SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI, 1046 W CEDAR STREET, ALLENTOWN, PA 18102.