

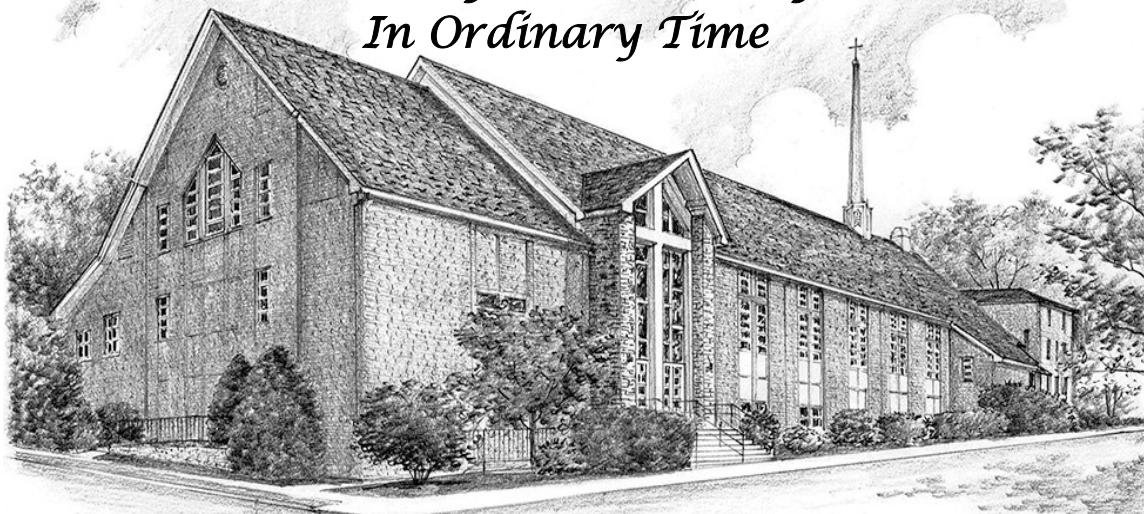
SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

WWW.STFRANCISALLENTOWN.ORG

FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM: @STFRANCISALLENTOWN

*September 6, 2026
Twenty Third 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
September 6, 2026**

*In Memory of Agnes Batzel
By Daughter, Michelle-Evans Hafeman*

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.

Holy Family – Patrick, Rose Mary & Thomas McFadden
Sacred Heart – James, Anna & Sean Cosgrove

by Kate and Pete McFadden

Sanctuary Memorial Fund

We acknowledge these contributions in memory of:

Florence “Dolly” DeLong

by: Deacon Robert & Joanne Young

Jonathan Roth

by: Christ Family



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.)



Recently Deceased

Please pray for the soul of Florence “Dolly” DeLong, the sister of Al Moyer who recently passed away. Grant her eternal rest, O Lord, and may her family know your peace and comfort.

Our Weekly Stewardship



Weekend of August 29 & 30, 2026

Sunday in Pew \$ 5,110.00

Sunday Online \$ 2338.84

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.

Mass Schedule

Monday, Sept 7, 2026

1 Cor 5:1-8; Lk 6:6-11

7:00 P Anthony Sr. & Kathleen Capobianco

Tuesday, Sept. 8th Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mt. 5:1-4a; Mt. 1:1-16

8:00 AM Leonard Capuano

Wednesday, Sept. 9th

Saint Peter Claver

1 Cor 7:25-31; Lk 6:20-26

8:00 AM The People of Saint Francis

Thursday, Sept. 10th

1 cor 8:1b-7, 11-13; Lk 6:27-38

8:00 AM Francis Castellucci

Friday, Sept. 11th

1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27; Lk 6:39-42

8:00 AM Michael Saby

Saturday and Sunday, September 12th and 13th

Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sir 27; Rom 14:7-9; Mt 18:21-35

4:30 PM Joann Stoneback

8:30 AM John Torok III

10:30 AM Nancy Lewullis and Son, Joseph

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.



COOKS WITH COLLARS IS BACK!

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. Voting starts **Sept 1st thru Sept 31st**.

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!

Outreach Committee – Note the Date Change

The Outreach Committee will meet on Monday, September 14th at 5:30 PM in Heritage Hall. Enter through the Cedar Street ramp. For more info call Kate at 610-737-7232.



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 and respectful environments. 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 park 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 own local parish.

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



Parish Office Closing

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed on Monday, September 7th, for Labor Day.

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



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.



Called to Serve: Pray and Encourage Vocations!

Our Vocations Ministry is growing, and we'd love for you to be part of It! Join us for an upcoming meeting on **September 15th at 6:30 pm** in Heritage Hall, as we continue our parish efforts to pray for, encourage and support vocations to the priesthood, religious life, marriage and consecrated life.

As St. John Paul II reminds us: "The future of humanity passes by way of the family."

Come and see what the Lord may be calling you to do! Contact Heidi Beck or Diane Colom through the parish office, or sign-up using Flocknote to the Vocations Ministry. There you will receive notices of upcoming meetings and events

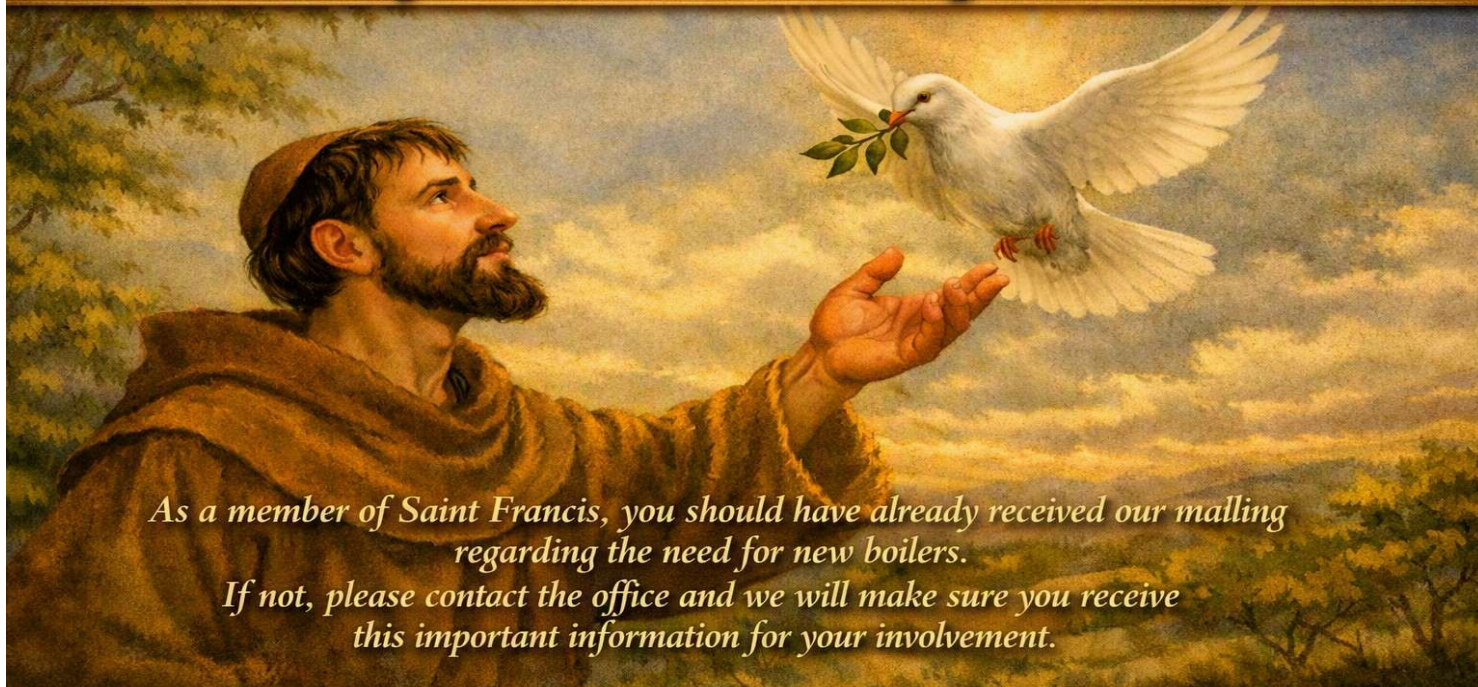


Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Day

On Wednesday, October 21st from 8 AM to 11 PM, Boscov's Department Store will again host their popular FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS event, a special day

filled with fun and fundraising. Shopping passes for this special event are available at the Parish Office for only \$5 each. Each pass includes a 25% discount shopping pass* for purchases made only on October 21, 2026. St. Francis of Assisi will keep the entire \$5 made on each pass. Help us to earn even more by purchasing your Boscov's gift cards at the Parish Office! *Some exclusions apply*

Warming our Church – Nourishing our Faith



As a member of Saint Francis, you should have already received our mailing regarding the need for new boilers.

If not, please contact the office and we will make sure you receive this important information for your involvement.

Red, White, and Blue Mass on 9/11

Join the Diocese of Allentown for a special Red, White & Blue Mass honoring those who serve our communities and our nation. On Friday, September 11th, Bishop Alfred Schlert will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving at 8:46 AM at the Cathedral of Saint Catharine of Siena in Allentown. The 8:46 start time commemorates the moment the World Trade Center's North Tower was struck on September 11, 2001. There will also be a reception at 10:00 a.m.

Police, firefighters, first responders, health care workers, members of the military, legal professionals, elected officials, and their families are warmly invited to attend. Those who serve are encouraged to wear their uniforms.

Following Mass, join us for a light reception and remarks from Sr. Deirdre (Dede) Byrne, M.D., U.S

. Army Colonel, renowned surgeon, and consecrated religious. RSVP to stewardship@allentowndiocese.org.

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



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.

Assumption BVM Basket Social

Assumption BVM Parish, 22nd St. & Washington Ave., Northampton, Basket Social on Saturday, September 12th (12-7 PM) and Sunday, September 13 (8AM-1 PM). Drawings held on Sunday starting at 1:30 PM, need not be present to win. Homemade foods and baked goods for sale. Tickets are 25 for \$5 on sale at the door.

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.



Saint Martha's Ministry

Saint Martha's Ministry will clean the church on Saturday, September 12th from 10 AM to 12 PM. Every one is welcome. Going forward, the Ministry will meet on the second Saturday of each month from 10 AM to 12 PM to clean the church. Questions? Call Tara at 607-760-8743.



Choir Practice Returns September 15th!

Do you enjoy singing?? Do you enjoy meeting, working with, and laughing with your fellow parishioners?? Then, please join our parish choir!!

We rehearse on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 - 8:00 PM and sing 2-3

times per month...not at the same Mass. Our schedule varies each month. You do not need to be able to read music...you just need to love spreading God's joy through music. Remember...those who sing pray twice!! Please contact Rosanne at rosiemusic4@gmail.com or call 484-225-2080 for more details. Thank you!

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



September 6, 2026

Twenty-Third
Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Vocations

Ministry

"If he listens to you, you have won over your brother." (Matthew 18:15)

Jesus calls us to reconciliation, guiding us to bring peace and healing into the lives of others. Every vocation is an invitation to embody His love and forgiveness. How might God be calling you to share His peace in your life? If you feel God is stirring a holy desire for the priesthood or consecrated life, talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 610-437-0755 or via email: jmaria@allentowndiocese.org



Attention All Women! "Women Walking in Faith"

Our group of faith-filled women will meet on Wednesday, September 9th 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.



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.



St. Francis Senior Citizens Meeting

On Tuesday, September 15th, the Senior Citizens will meet at 1:00 PM in Heritage Hall for their monthly meeting. For info, call Madeline Klotz at 610-395-7386.

Liturgical Ministers Schedule

Saturday and Sunday, September 12 & 13, 2026

	<u>4:30 PM</u>	<u>8:30 AM</u>	<u>10:30 AM</u>
Lector	B. Beck	R. Granitz-Jacob	C. Stockdale
Eucharistic Ministers	F. & S. Koerbler	H. Moyer, T. Racek	L. Moser, M. Evans, B. Ocasio
Cantor	R. Herman	L. Unger	J. Fignar
Organist	A. Eaves	M. Issermoyer	D. Badesso
Altar Servers	D. Badesso	R. Venditto	S. Issermoyer
Sacristan	J. Fittipaldi	D. Issermoyer	T. Jacob
	J. DeLeo	T. Jacob	

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, highchairs.) 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.