

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

WWW.STFRANCISALLENTOWN.ORG

FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM: @STFRANCISALLENTOWN

September 21, 2025
Twenty-Fifth 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 (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 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 21, 2025 is

*In Memory of Mary and Jack Griffin
By Jim & Susan Steiner*

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 Sacred Heart for the week of September 21, 2025 are
*In Memory of Stanley Hughes
By Doris Marsicano*

Choir Schedule

The choir will rehearse on Tuesday, September 23rd, at 6:30 PM in the choir loft.

Sanctuary Memorial Fund

We acknowledge this contribution in memory of:

Karl F. Schuster

by: John & Mary Ann Levkusic

Eternal rest, grant unto him, O Lord



Prayers for the Allentown Diocese Cursillo Weekends

Join us in praying for all the men and women attending this year's Cursillo weekends. We have parish members attending the women's weekend this year, as well as parishioners serving as team members leading this incredible spiritual journey. The Cursillo Movement is introduced via a three-day weekend retreat. This retreat includes daily prayer, daily Mass, and opportunities for Spiritual Direction and Reconciliation. During the Retreat, a team of religious and lay people present a series of talks which are then discussed in small groups allowing for the sharing of personal insights. At the end of the weekend, candidates feel closer to Christ and have a better understanding of the power of the Holy Spirit, they know of Christ's unconditional love for them and that they have been called through their baptism to spread the Word of God.

Reminder: Attic Treasures Drop-Off this Saturday
Don't forget to bring your Attic Treasures donations this Saturday, September 27th and next Saturday, October 4th, to the Heritage Hall ramp on Cedar Street between the hours of 9 AM and Noon. See poster in the back of the bulletin for more details.

Adoration Chapel Closed

Our Adoration Chapel will reopen this Monday, September 22nd at 7:00 AM. Thanks for your patience.

Mass Schedule

Monday, September 22, 2025

Ezr 1:1-6; Lk 8:16-18

7:00 PM Walter Groller

Tuesday, September 23rd

Saint Pius of Pietrelcina

Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Lk 8:19-21

8:00 AM Nicholas Troccola

Wednesday, September 24th

Ezr 9:5-9; Lk 9:1-6

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

Thursday, September 25th

Hg 1:1-8; Lk 9:7-9

8:00 AM Rita Zimmer

Friday, September 26th

Saints Cosmas and Damien

Hg 2:1-9; Lk 9:18-22

8:00 AM Bud Klinger

Saturday and Sunday, September 27th & 28th

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Am 6:1a, 4-7; 1 Tm 6:11-16; Lk 16:19-31

4:30 PM Marie Epler

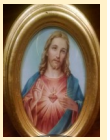
8:30 AM Felix Marrero & Juan Ruiz

10:30 AM Kathy Jerant

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.

We Need Your Help!

Enclosed you will find a sheet of the areas you can offer your stewardship at Saint Francis. Some are spiritual, some are physical. Whether you are limited by time or physicality, there is something for everyone. There is something for you!

Please take some time to fill out the enclosed form. Each person should have their own form. More forms are available in the Parish Office and on the table in the foyer at the back of church. It is our hope that each individual will seriously reflect what they can do and then fill out the form for the future of our parish. All forms can be placed in the collection basket, dropped off at the office or mailed to the parish. We have also given you the opportunity to log on to FLOCKNOTE.COM to submit your choices.



COOKS WITH COLLARS

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.

Diocesan Blood Drive

Miller-Keystone Blood Center and the Diocese of Allentown are teaming up to host a diocese-wide blood drive in honor of Saint Januarius, the patron saint of blood banks. Parishioners are encouraged to donate blood at one of MKBC's donor centers beginning on the Feast Day of Saint Januarius, September 19th, through December 16th, one of the miracle dates of his blood liquification. To schedule an appointment, go to <https://www.giveapint.org/event/januarius-blood-drive/> or call 800-223-6667 ext. 2. MKBC and the Diocese of Allentown are looking forward to working together to save lives in our community!



Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Day



On Wednesday, October 22nd 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 22, 2025, and enters you to win a \$100 gift card at each store. 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

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 bulldog!

In Faith - Celebrating Today, Embracing Tomorrow!

Support Your Parish School!

Show your school pride in style with our exclusive spirit wear! Your purchase will help support St. John Vianney Regional School!

Order is delivered directly to your door!
Follow the QR code to purchase!



ONLINE STORE

FIELDHOUSE PRINTING CO.

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

Our annual **Blessing of Pets** in honor of our patron saint, Saint Francis of Assisi, will be on Saturday, October 4th at 9:00 AM in our Church Parking Lot. We ask that all animals be under the control of their owners by leash or in a crate or carrier. The service will be held rain or shine. This is a wonderful opportunity to do something special for those creatures of God that bring us such joy.

St. Francis of Assisi, pray for us!





The Friend Ship Ministry

St. Ann's Parish Life Center, 526 Fairview St., Emmaus, 2 to 4 PM on Sunday, September 21st (third Sunday). This is a ministry for young adults with disabilities (19 and up) to foster friendships and sense of belonging through fun, service, and spiritual activities. One caregiver must attend with the participant; register, <https://forms.gle/ufomXcchgB-NapWC7>, or email mciofalo@comcast.net.

PA March for Life - Bus From Bethlehem

Attend Pennsylvania Right for Life March at Harrisburg State Capitol on Monday, September 22nd. 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.

Pickleball

Monday, September 22nd, St. Luke's Sportsplex, 5:30-7:30 PM, \$10, diocesan event, all ages and skill levels. zhodgskin@allentowndiocese.org, <https://bit.ly/45t016a>.

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).

St. Junipero Serra Club of Bethlehem

Tuesday, September 23rd at St. Anne's Convent, Bethlehem. Rosary 6:00 PM, Mass 6:30 PM, Program Event 7:00 PM to foster, promote, and support vocations to Priesthood, Consecrated Life, Permanent Diaconate, through prayer, good works, and grow in personal holiness; all welcome. (Second and fourth Tuesdays)

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>.

Health and Safety Fair

Sunday, September 28th, St. Jane Frances de Chantal, Easton, Community Center, 1-4:30 PM. Lectures, displays, local professionals, free, rain or shine, duome.inc@gmail.com

Shower of Roses

Ceremony to honor St. Therese of the Child Jesus, Carmelite Monastery, 3551 Lanark Road, Coopersburg. Sunday, September 28th, Mass 2:30 PM, blessing and distribution of roses, blessing with relic, refreshments in basement cafeteria, no morning Mass.

To inquire about Christian Burial, contact Resurrection Cemetery at (610) 395-3819 X1 or Holy Savior Cemetery at (610) 866-2372 X1

St. Francis Center at Monocacy Manor

September Programs

395 Bridle Path Road, Bethlehem, PA 18017

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

The Feast of Saint Francis: Celebration of the Eucharist on the Feast of St. Francis, October 4th | 9:30AM, White House Chapel at Monocacy Manor

The Blessing of the Animals, October 4th | 9:30-11:00 AM at Monocacy Farm Project | 395 Bridle Path Road, Bethlehem, PA 18017 **Every person, child, and pet must be safe. Please secure your pets as needed.**

October Twilight Retreat: Finding Hope When Things Seem Hopeless. Presenter: Bob Olney. October 16, 6:30-8:00 PM, St. Francis Center at Monocacy Manor. Registration fee \$25.00

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 to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage 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.

New and Used Book Sale

Assumption B.V.M. of Northampton invites you to join them for their sale in the church social hall, 2181 Washington Avenue, Northampton on Saturday, October 4th from 1 to 7 PM and Sunday, October 5th from 8 AM to 1 PM.

Married Couples:

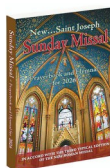
When's the last time you gave your marriage a tune-up? Keep your engines running by getting away together on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend! The next in-person experiences are at the Our Lady of Czestochowa Shrine in Doylestown, PA on October 10-12 and November 14-16, 2025.

For more info visit: <https://www.wwme-philly.org>.

Attention All Parish Organizations

Please call Donna Gerancher at 610-433-6102, x15 to schedule all of your organization's activities to ensure the availability of the room or hall of your choice.

Order your 2026 St. Joseph Sunday Missal Now!



The Parish Office will place an order for the new 2026 Missals within the next few weeks for those who would like their own Missal. There will not be Missals in all the pews as there were last year. The order will be placed on October 15th and can be paid for when you pick up. Call the Parish Office at 610-433-6102 to place your order.





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, October 11th or Sunday, October 12th. We thank you so much for donating to our big Parish Event!

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary's Spectacular 16th Annual Basket Social!

Parish Social Hall, 435 Pershing Blvd., Whitehall
Friday, October 10th, 5:00 P.M. – 7:00 PM, Saturday, October 11th, 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM, Sunday, October 12th, 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM. All baskets & prizes are valued at or over \$35.00! A “Big Ticket” raffle is available for prizes worth over \$75.00! Four prizes will have a \$50 cash bonus tucked away inside! Drawing starts on Sunday at 2:30 PM. Winners will be called either Sunday or Monday morning. Food will be available for purchase all weekend.

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/>.

Diocesan Pilgrimage

Join your fellow faithful of the Diocese of Allentown on a Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on Tuesday, October 7, 2025 – the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary!

All are invited to enjoy a beautiful day celebrating the Jubilee Year of Hope as a Diocese! The Pilgrimage begins at 10:00 AM with arrivals and guided tours, followed by time to visit the over 80 chapels and oratories that make up “Mary's House.” There will also be a youth holy hour in the Crypt Church, keynote speakers (English and Spanish), a Rosary Pilgrimage in five languages with beautiful music by our Diocesan Choir. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available throughout the day. The day will end with Mass in the Great Upper Church at 3:00 PM celebrated by Bishop Schlert.

There is no need to sign up for the Pilgrimage (unless your parish is hosting a chartered bus that requires registration). There is plenty of free parking available. Pilgrims are invited to pack a lunch, visit nearby restaurants within walking distance of the Basilica, or visit the cafeteria within the Basilica.

The Pilgrimage Program runs from 10:00 AM to 4:30 PM – but the Basilica is open to the public from 6 AM to 6 PM so feel free come early or stay late! Each pilgrim will receive an official booklet for the day as well as a complimentary copy of the October edition of the Magnificat.

“Visiting the Basilica is a powerful way to take advantage of the grace of the Jubilee and to be filled with the hope that flows from the embrace of our Mother.” The Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio, Archbishop for Military Services & President of the USSCB.

Visit the Diocese of Allentown Pilgrimage Committee webpage for updates and information or email pilgrimage@allentowndiocese.org.



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



Our Weekly Stewardship

Weekend of September 13 & 14, 2025

Sunday in Pew	\$ 3,702.00
Sunday Online	\$ 2,529.00
Second Collection in Pew	\$ 1,102.00
Second Collection Online	\$ 105.00

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 information.

Liturgical Ministers Schedule Saturday and Sunday, September 27th & 28th

	<u>4:30 PM</u>	<u>8:30AM</u>	<u>10:30 AM</u>
Lector	J. Fittipaldi	H. Moyer	R. Granitz
Eucharistic Ministers	P. Stiles, V. Herman, E. Wascavage	A. Drovich, P. Baker, T. Fallon	M. Dietrick, G. Rodriguez, J. Colom
Cantor	J. Fignar	P. Rollins	A. Huynh
Organist	R. Venditto	R. Venditto	J. DeMatto
Altar Servers	-----	-----	T. Bauer
Sacristan	J. DeLeo	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 and Tuesday from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM beginning September 8th 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.