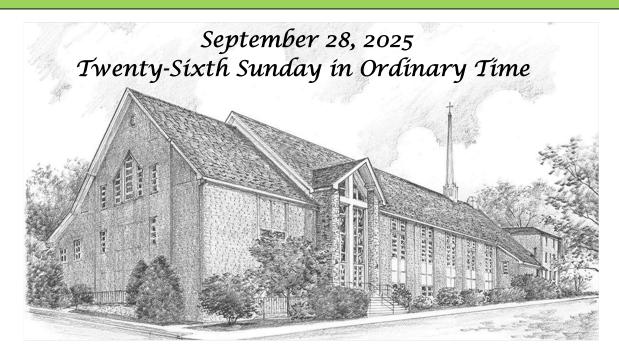
SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

WWW.STFRANCISALLENTOWN.ORG

FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM: @STFRANCISALLENTOWN



PastorReverend 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 <u>well</u> 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 28, 2025 is In Memory of Deceased of McGuire Family

By Stephanie Epler

New Adoration Chapel Hours: Monday through Friday: 7 AM—7 PM Saturday:7 AM—3 PM Sunday: 12 PM—7 PM **Closed Holidays and Holy Days**

Choir Schedule

The choir will rehearse on Tuesday, September 3 30th, at 6:30 PM in the choir loft. They will sing at 10:30 AM Mass on Sunday, October 5th.



Please note, there will be a special Mass on the Vigil of St. Francis of Assisi's Feastday, Friday, October 3rd at 7:00 PM in the main church. We hope you will be able to join us in honoring our **Patron Saint!**

Mark Your Calendar:

Our first Men of St. Francis Parish Breakfast will take place on Sunday, October 19, 2025.

We Need Your Help!

By now all of you should have received the letters and checklist on ways you can help at your Parish.

Please take some time to fill out the 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.

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 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!

Reminder: Attic Treasures Drop-Off this Saturday The final drop-off for Attic Treasures donations is this Saturday, October 4th, at 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.

Mass Schedule

Monday, September 29, 2025 Saints Michael, Gabriel Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Jn 1:47-51

and Raphael, Archangels

7:00 PM Laura Cleary

Tuesday, September 30th

Saint Jerome

Zec 8:20-23; Lk 9:51-56

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

Wednesday, October 1st Saint Therese of the Child Jesus Neh 2:1-8; Lk 9:57-62

8:00 AM James J. Kelly

Thursday, October 2nd The Holy Guardian Angels

Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Mt 18:1-5, 10

8:00 AM Intentions of Karin Wahlstrom

Friday, October 3rd Bar 1:15-22; Lk 10:13-16

8:00 AM Maria Compagnone

7:00 PM John Fignar Vigil, Feast of St. Francis of Assisi Saturday and Sunday, October 4th & 5th **Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Hb 1:2-3, 2:2-4; 2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14; Lk 17:5-10

4:30 PM Robert & Hilda Racek

8:30 AM Sanctuary Memorial Fund Members

10:30 AM Eugene & Yvonne Green

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.

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!

COOKS WITH COLLARS



Father Rich needs your help!

Father Rich is representing 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 for Father Rich for our Diocesan top chef (deadline September 29th)! 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.

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

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 which began 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!





Serving Those Who Serve: Triennial National Collection for the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA



Every three years we are asked to contribute to the Archdiocese for Military Services, to ensure that service members, Veterans, and their families can receive preparations for the sacraments as they defend our rights of freedom, speech and face constant transition

and uncertainty.

We are asked to consider in prayer a donation to help the AMS to minister to the 1.8 million faithful throughout the U.S. and around the globe who serve the nation. The AMS does not receive financial assistance from the government or the U.S. Armed Forces.

This collection will be taken up on the weekend of October 4th & 5th.

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 Reverand 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 follow St. Francis of Assisi Parish on public media Facebook or Instagram

Our Weekly Stewardship

Weekend of September 20 & 21	, 2	025
Sunday in Pew	\$	4,576.00
Sunday Online	\$	2,409.00
Second Collection in Pew	\$	1,315.00
Second Collection Online	\$.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.

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.

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., Northampton invites you to 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.

Better Together Widow and Widower Social Group

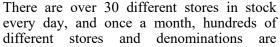
Better Together Widow and Widower Social Group, community for widows and widowers to connect with others in the same circumstance, meets monthly at Assumption Church, 4101 Old Bethlehem Pike, Bethlehem, PA., in the Jubilee Center. The next meeting will be on October 8th (Second Wednesday) at 1 PM, 610 -867-7424 x 16 for more info.

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.

<u>Liturgical Ministers Schedule</u> Saturday and Sunday, October 4th & 5th				
	4:30 PM	8:30AM	<u>10:30 AM</u>	
Lector	L. Bauer	R. Jacob	C. Stockdale	
Eucharistic Ministers	P. Stiles, M. Evans, V. Herman	T. Fallon, F. & J. Lenahan	L. Moser, D. Ruiz, M.P. Tran, L. Unger (Choir)	
Cantor	G. Rodriguez	P. Rollins	Choir	
Organist	R. Venditto	R. Venditto	R. Venditto	
Altar Servers	F. & S. Koerbler	R. Rollins		
Sacristan	J. Johnson	T. Jacob	T. Jacob	
Rosary	H. Moyer	M. Issermoyer	L.A. Kocon	

Feed Your Faith Monthly Order



available through our monthly order program. To see the entire list of retailers, go to RaiseRight.com/shop and click home page. The next monthly order will be placed on this **Monday, October 6th.** To order, call the Parish Office at 610-433-6102.

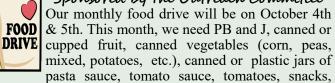
Order your 2026 St. Joseph Sunday Missal Now!



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.

Monthly Food Drive Sponsored by the Outreach Committee



beans (all types), pork and beans, tuna, spam, chicken, condiments: mayonnaise, ketchup, mustard, pickles, relish. Breakfast items: pancacke mix, syrup, oatmeal, granola bars, snacks and crackers. Our Outreach Team is also collecting for VALOR (Veterans Assisted Living Out Reach) and we are in need of pop top easy open proteins, vegetables and fruits. No glass jars, please. Also, please, no XL containers or outdated foods.

Collection carts will be available in the vestibule of the church for your donations.

Recitation of the Rosary

The rosary will be recited before Masses every weekend in October (including before the 10:30 AM Mass on Facebook and YouTube) as we honor Mary in her special month.



(The rosary begins about 25 minutes before each Mass.)

St. Francis Center at Monocacy Manor 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

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.

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/.

"Walking with Mary and Monica"

A morning of reflection for those whose loved ones have left the Church will take place Saturday, October 11th, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Sacred Heart Parish, 1817 1st Street, Bethlehem. Speaking will be Fr. Luke Fletcher, CFR, Chaplain at the Blue Army Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima; Maggie Green, author of The Saint Monica Club; and Celeste Behe, founder of the St. Monica Ministry. Cost of \$10 includes a continental breakfast. To register, please email StMonicaMinistry27@gmail.com. "Walking with Mary and Monica" is being sponsored by the St. Monica Ministry of the Diocese of Allentown.

Diocesan White Mass for Health Care Workers

The Allentown Guild of the Catholic Medical Association invites all health care workers to attend the annual Diocesan White Mass celebrated by Bishop Schlert at St. Thomas More parish, Allentown on Saturday, October 18th, at 5 PM. Reception to follow with a presentation by Deacon John M. Travaline, MD "Restoring Relationship in the Art of Medicine." RSVP by October 11, 2025 to allentowncma@gmail.com.

"A Visit From Padre Pio's Friary"

National Centre for Padre Pio, Barto, Saturday, October 11th-Tuesday, October 14th. Rare relics of St. Pio on display, Mass with Bishop Alfred Schlert Tuesday, 10:30 AM, schedule at https://bit.ly/41CuvSa

St. Junipero Serra Club of Bethlehem

Tuesday, October 14th 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)

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:

Final Drop-off: Saturday, 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 <u>Monday and Tuesday from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM</u> 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!