

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

WWW.STFRANCISALLENTOWN.ORG

FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM: @STFRANCISALLENTOWN



Priests

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

Permanent Deacon

Deacon Robert Young

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 PM

Sunday: 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

Daily: see Mass Schedule

Holy Day: (Vigil 7:00 PM) 8:00 AM & 12:15 PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:15-4:00 PM

Monday: 6:15 PM (before 7:00 PM Mass)

Anytime by appointment

Adoration Chapel

Please consider spending some time with
our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

Our Adoration Chapel is located
between the Church and the school building.

Open daily from 7:00 AM—9:00 PM.

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the family of
Saint Francis of Assisi,
aim to inspire hearts of
compassion, kindness,
and love through
our worship of the
Holy Eucharist.



SACRAMENTAL AND PARISH INFORMATION

New Members

Welcome to Saint Francis Parish. Please call the Parish Center Office in order to register in our parish, or stop in during office hours or on the weekend after all Masses. One needs to be a member of our parish three months in order to receive a certificate of eligibility. Please notify the office if you change your address or move away.

Religious Education (PREP)

All children of the parish should be receiving religious instruction through our parish school or through our Parish Religious Education Program which has been combined with the Cathedral of Saint Catharine of Siena. Please contact the Coordinator of Religious Education, Donna Sciacca at 610-432-7655 or by email at prep@cathedral-church.org

Marriage

We look forward to celebrating God's gift of love in the sacrament of marriage for any registered and practicing parishioner. Diocesan policy states that contact should be made one year, but no later than six months, prior to the proposed date of marriage in order to begin pre-nuptial instructions. Call the Parish Center Office for further information.

Baptisms

Baptisms are held for our registered (at least three months) and practicing parishioners normally the first Sunday of the month immediately after the 10:30 Mass. Parents are to register for a Baptismal Preparation Class held normally on the Wednesday before each baptism in the Parish Center. At least one Godparent must be a practicing Catholic for the valid reception of baptism. That person must also be able to receive a certificate of eligibility from their Catholic parish. A Non-Catholic Christian is permitted to act as a witness. Parents should begin to make arrangements for a baptism during pregnancy.

Godparents & Confirmation Sponsors Info

You must be at least 16 years of age, have received the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation, must be known to attend Mass regularly and, if married, the marriage must be recognized by the church. These requirements are the universal law of the church. All requests for 'Letters of Good Standing' are to be made well in advance to the Parish Office.

Ministry to the Sick

Please notify the Parish Center Office when a parishioner is in the hospital or home and would like to receive communion or the anointing of the sick. Visits can also be made to those parishioners who are homebound and would like to receive confession and communion.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

We welcome and support all whose faith journey brings them to seek full communion with the Catholic Church. Please call the Parish Center Office for further information.

Saint John Vianney Regional School

We encourage all our parents to consider sending their children to our parish school, Saint John Vianney Regional School. Our school is located at 210 North 18th Street in Allentown. Please contact our school principal at 610-435-8981 to register your child for a faith based, middle-states accredited, Catholic education.

Allentown Central Catholic High School

We encourage our high school students to consider attending our local Catholic high school - Allentown Central Catholic. Please contact the Director of Admissions, at (610) 437-4601 for more information.

Wills and Memorials

As a lasting remembrance or final gift to your parish, all parishioners are encouraged to include St. Francis of Assisi in their wills or as a beneficiary on an insurance policy. At the time of passing of a relative or friend, consider enrolling them in the Sanctuary Memorial Fund. Memorials are available in the Parish Center Office and are often used in lieu of flowers.

Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator

Pamela J. Russo, MSW, MS
610-871-5200, Ext. 2204

Victim Assistance Coordinator

Wendy Krisak, MA, NCC, LPC
Direct Telephone Number (800)791-9209

The Diocese of Allentown provides assistance to anyone who, as a minor, was sexually abused by a priest, deacon, or employee/volunteer of the Diocese/Parish. Parents, guardians, children, and survivors of sexual abuse are invited and encouraged to contact the Diocese of Allentown for more information about this program. The fullness of compassion should be extended to these victims by the Church. To learn more about the Diocese of Allentown's Youth Protection Programs, Sexual Abuse Policy, and Code of Conduct, please visit www.allentowndiocese.org and click on "Youth Protection" in the upper right-hand corner of the page.

If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or by calling 800-276-1562.



Sanctuary Lamp Memorials

The Sanctuary Lamp Memorial for the week April 7, 2024 is
*In Memory of Joseph Bonkiewicz
And Henry Novakowski
By Kathy Zmijewski*

Sanctuary Memorial Fund

We acknowledge these contributions in memory of:
Rev. Msgr. Dennis A. Rigney
by: Marie Volack & Family, Jean, Ron & Jill Porotsky and Jan & Scott Bartman, John & Peggy Philapavage, Audrey Franko
Marie E. Epler
by: Marie Volack & Family, M/M Larry Brodowski, Chuck & Tammy Epler, Al & Helen Moyer, Bruce & Linda Reinhard
Paul J. "Skip" Horvath
by: Kevin & Kathleen White, Charlie & Linda Apple, Norma Beck & Family
Joseph Neil Winters
by: Al & Helen Moyer
by: *Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord*

Men of St. Francis Parish Breakfast

Will take place **this Sunday, April 7th.** Breakfast is served at your table by our volunteer waitresses from 9:30 AM to Noon. Menu selections include: Eggs, Home Fries, Pancakes, French Toast, Sausage, Ham, Toast, Cereal, Orange Juice, Coffee, Tea and Hot Chocolate. Cost: Adults \$8.00, Children (age 6-12) \$5.00, Age 5 and Under Free.



Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee will meet on Monday, April 8th at **6:00 PM** in Heritage Hall. Enter through the Cedar Street ramp.

St. Francis Senior Citizens Meeting

On Tuesday, April 9th, the Senior Citizens will meet at 1:00 PM in Heritage Hall for a short meeting, Bingo and cards.. For info, call Madeline Klotz at 610-395-7386.

Choir Schedule

The choir will rehearse on Tuesday, April 9th at 6:30 PM in the choir loft.



Food Pantry

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

Attention All Women! "Women Walking in Faith"

Our group of faith-filled women will meet on Wednesday, April 10th at 7:00 PM in Heritage Hall. 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.

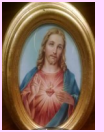


Mass Schedule

Monday, April 8, 2024 Annunciation of The Lord
Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38
7:00 PM Lesley Steigerwalt
Tuesday, April 9th
Acts 4:32-37; Jn 3:7b-15
8:00 AM Walter Reichard
Wednesday, April 10th
Acts 5:17-26; Jn 3:16-21
8:00 AM Marie E. Epler
Thursday, April 11th Saint Stanislaus
Acts 5:27-33; Jn 3:31-36
8:00 AM Paul J. Horvath
Friday, April 12th
Acts 5:34-42; Jn 6:1-15
8:00 AM Thomas Lessel
Saturday and Sunday, April 13th & 14th
Third Sunday of Easter
Acts 3:13-15; 1 Jn 2:1-5a; Lk 24:35-48
4:30 PM Rosemary McFadden
8:30 AM Alma & Joseph Philapavage
People of St. Francis of Assisi Parish
10:30 AM Anthony & Stella Stranzl

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.



Movie Club

This Sunday, April 7th-3:30 PM Doors Open and 4:00 PM Movie, "Jules".
Heritage Hall - use Cedar Street lot and ramp.



March Winter Weekend Raffle Winners

March 2nd \$50 - Robert Young
March 3rd \$500 - Gloria Fallon
March 9th \$50 - Maria Tartaglia
March 10th \$100 - Eleni Chaipis
March 16th \$50 - Cathleen Hawkey
March 17th \$100 - Donna Kindt
March 23rd \$50 - Barbara O'Neill
March 24th \$100 - Blesilda E. Aquino
March 30th \$50 - Anita Eaves
March 31st \$100 - Greg Gilbert

Congratulations to our March winners!!!

Hearing Devices Are Now Available

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





- Preschool Programs, Full Day
- Kindergarten through 8th Grade
- Safe Environment, Faith-Filled Curriculum
- Outstanding Academics
- Free Tour and Shadow Days

SJVRs: Educating a child's character, mind, and spirit!
Phone: 610-435-8981

Email: principal@stjohnvianneyschool.org

Call us today to schedule a tour at your convenience!
SJVRs: Educating a child's character, mind and spirit!

We're Hiring! Join our Team!

St. John Vianney Regional School is looking to fill the following positions for the 2023-2024 School Year:

- STEM Teacher
- Daily Substitute Teachers
- Extended Care Assistants

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

School Mission Statement

St. John Vianney Regional School is a Catholic community dedicated to living our faith in Jesus Christ from Preschool through 8th Grade. Our school and families partner together to encourage an appreciation for our diverse world. In a caring and respectful environment, we develop independent thinkers through spiritual values and strong academics. St. John Vianney students celebrate each day through prayer, education, and service; and embrace tomorrow committed to faith, leadership, and community.

Save the Date - June 2nd at 10:30 AM Mass

We will celebrate our parish children who received the Sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation at this Mass. We hope we can all attend to support our children on their journey to get to know Jesus better!!!



Retreat on Eucharistic Revival Program in the US



Learn about the National Eucharistic Revival and St. Francis of Assisi's devotion to the Eucharist. Take time for Eucharistic devotion and grow in love of the Eucharist. "Retreat on

Eucharistic Revival Program in the US" is a weekend retreat at St. Francis Retreat House in Easton presented by Fathers Charlie Smiech and Pat McCloskey OFM on April 19th to 21st. Donation for single on-site participant is \$295; \$495 per couple; \$140 for commuter; \$95 for virtual participant.

Register by April 9th at www.stfrancisretreathouse.org.

Diocesan ALTAR SERVER

Mass



APRIL

SATURDAY

13

11AM

2024

*The Cathedral of Saint Catharine of Siena
Allentown, Pennsylvania*

All youth altar servers throughout the diocese are invited to attend this special Mass celebrated by Bishop Schlert. This Mass is to bless and thank all those serving in this important ministry. Participants are invited to bring and vest in their parish's altar server robes. A reception for youth altar servers and their families will be held after the Mass. Saturday, April 13th 2024, 11:00 AM at the Cathedral Church of St. Catharine of Siena, Allentown.

Jubilee Year Pilgrimage to ITALY
with Bishop Schlert and Fr. Hoffa

Follow the Footsteps of Saints Peter and Paul
FLORENCE • ASSISI • ROME

MARCH 25 - APRIL 3, 2025
\$5,499.00 Per person

DIocese of ALLENTOWN

Contact Fr. Hoffa for more information and to sign up:
ahoffa@allentowndiocese.org or 610-921-2729 ext 2205.



**Tickets – one sheet for \$10 -
3 sheets for \$20**

**Baskets are all valued at \$50
or more**

**There will be baskets for
every member of your
family – the littles, men,
women, your pets –
everyone!!!**

**As always – there will also
be gift cards and adult
beverage “baskets” to bid
on!**

**Food will be available for
purchase – dine in or take
home**

St Francis of Assisi Basket Raffle

May 18- 11 am to 6 pm and May 19 - 9 am to 2 pm



Our Weekly Stewardship

Weekend of March 30th & 31st

Sunday in Pew	\$ 5,441.16
Sunday Online	\$ 2,345.90
Second Collection in Pew (Easter)	\$ 8,544.24
Second Collection Online (Easter)	\$ 1,690.00

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.

Cash Bingo

The Blue Star Mothers of the Lehigh Valley are sponsoring a Cash Bingo on Sunday, April 14, at St. Elizabeth Parish Hall, 435 Pershing Blvd. Whitehall. Doors open at 1 pm; Bingo begins at 2 pm. \$25 per person in advance/\$30 at the door; 15 Games + Specials; Food and Refreshments available for purchase. Call Judy – at 610-428-0778 or Joan – at 610-349-7791. Proceeds benefit active-duty military as well as local veterans.

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



If you are NOT YET SIGNED UP -Flocknote is a free communication system that sends emails or text messages to notify you of

special or important messages from our Parish. You can join different groups at the Parish and stay connected with up-to-date communications and reminders.

To join, use your cell phone and simply text the word STFRAN to the number 84576.

We hope you join this GREAT WAY of receiving all the parish news - keeping you close to your spiritual family here at St. Francis!!!

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.



Pilgrimage to Rome

Our Pilgrimage to the Holy Land for 2024 has been changed to Rome, and there are a few seats open. The dates are November 18 through 25, 2024. Contact Deacon Ricardo Reyes at 347-851-9815 for more information.

Liturgical Ministers Schedule Saturday and Sunday, April 13th & 14th

	<u>4:30 PM</u>	<u>8:30AM</u>	<u>10:30 AM</u>
Lector	B. Beck	H. Moyer	M. Seltzer
Eucharistic Ministers	M. Evans, E. Wascavage	A. Drovich, T. Fallon	M. P. Tran, L. Moser
Cantor	J. Fignar	M. Issermoyer	G. Rodriguez
Organist	D. Badesso	R. Venditto	D. Badesso
Altar Servers	V. Herman & M. Joliffe		S. Issermoyer, N. Schwenk
Sacristan	J. DeLeo	P. McFadden	P. McFadden

mother-daughter
TEA



Lillian Fallon
AUTHOR OF "THEOLOGY OF STYLE:
EXPRESSING THE UNIQUE &
UNREPEATABLE YOU"

Kathleen Chovanec
FERTILITY AWARENESS EDUCATOR

**MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS
(AGE 9-13) ARE INVITED TO SPEND
AN AFTERNOON CELEBRATING THE
GIFT OF FEMININITY!**

St. Francis of Assisi Church Hall, 1046 W. Cedar Street, Allentown, PA 18102, Sunday, April 28, 2024, 1-4 PM, Doors open at 12:30 PM.

Mothers, together with their daughters ages 9 to 13, are invited to spend a memorable afternoon exploring God's gift of human fertility. The event will feature presentations on the physical and emotional changes girls experience, the sacredness of life, and empowering tips about modesty, virtue, and personal style. Your daughter is welcome to invite another special woman in her life to attend. A light lunch, door prizes, and games will be included. \$25 per family. Registration required by April 7th.

Sponsored by the NFP Task Force in partnership with the Bishop's Commission for Women, Office of Marriage and Family Life, Diocese of Allentown. Questions? Call Kristin Osenbach at kosenbach@allentowndiocese.org



MERCY SCHOOL
FOR SPECIAL LEARNING

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

Advertise With Us!



If you own or work for a local business, why not advertise on the back of our bulletin? Many parishioners will check the back of our bulletin and some people are more likely to choose a company that supports the parish by their advertising. Whether you are a parishioner or not, advertising on our weekly bulletin will benefit both you and our parish. To place advertisements on the back of our bulletin, contact Karen Donehower with John Patrick Publishing Company at 484-363-9475.

Come Join Us!

St. John Vianney Regional School Golf Outing

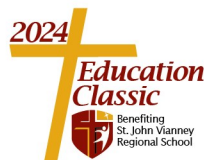
Monday, May 6, 2024

The Club at Twin Lakes

9:00 am Shotgun Start - Four Person Scramble

• Breakfast, Lunch, Awards, and Raffle Prizes
• Men's and Women's Long Drive Contest
\$500 Putting Contest, 50/50 & Pot of Gold

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: APRIL 26, 2024



Contact info:

Pat Witmer: 484-460-9051

Lee Solt: 610-509-5757

educationclassic@gmail.com

Thank you for supporting St. John Vianney!!!!

Public Rosary Hours

Please join us for our public Rosary Holy Hours on Saturdays at 12 noon, and Sundays at 7 PM as we pray for our families, our priests, our country and our world. Your presence is requested. Questions, please call Karin at 610-351-0835.

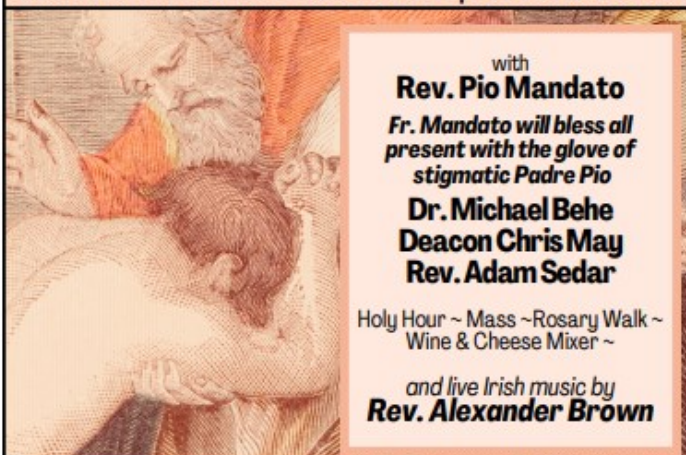


Bringing Up The Gifts



If you will be attending a weekend Mass for one of your loved ones, and would like to carry the Offertory Gifts, please call the Parish Office at 610-433-6102 and ask that a note be left for the ushers to let them know, so they do not ask someone else.

St. Monica Ministry Retreat for families and friends of lapsed Catholics



with
Rev. Pio Mandato
Fr. Mandato will bless all present with the glove of stigmatic Padre Pio
Dr. Michael Behe
Deacon Chris May
Rev. Adam Sedar

Holy Hour ~ Mass ~ Rosary Walk ~
Wine & Cheese Mixer ~

and live Irish music by
Rev. Alexander Brown

Friday, April 19 - Sunday, April 21

Peace Retreat House, Weatherly, PA

Email StMonicaMinistry27@gmail.com before April 10

April Showers

Bring Many Blessings!

The Saint Francis of Assisi Outreach Committee will be hosting a baby shower to benefit **Cay Galgon Life House**.

The organization is a non-profit in Bethlehem that assists pregnant women and mothers of infants through a residential program and a community outreach program throughout the Lehigh Valley.

We invite all parishioners to attend the baby shower after each mass on April 13th & 14th in Heritage Hall.

We kindly ask that you bring along an unwrapped gift for either baby or mother. Below is a list of needed items.

In addition to the list, the Life House needs small collapsible umbrellas. If you are unable to attend the shower in person but want to donate, please leave your gift at the parish office before April 13th.

Please stop by the shower to learn more about Cay Galgon Life House and enjoy a cupcake, coffee or tea!!

Thank You
for your
support!

INFANTS NEEDS LIST

Diaper Cream
Baby Wash/Shampoo
4oz/8oz Bottles
Bibs
Preemie to 3t Clothing
Pacifiers
Bath Towels
Wash Cloths
Receiving Blankets

MOTHERS NEEDS LIST

2-in-1 Shampoo
Deodorant
Body Wash
Toothpaste
Tampons
Body Lotion
Shaving Cream
Razors

OUR PARTNER
LIFE HOUSE

