

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 (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 November 9, 2025 is

*In Memory of
Russell J. Haas
By Virginia Haas*

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 Holy Family for the week of November 9, 2025 are
*In Memory of Carrie Palermo
By Doris Marsicano*



Choir Schedule

The choir will rehearse on Tuesday, November 11th at 6:30 PM in the choir loft.



St. Francis Senior Citizens Meeting

On Tuesday, November 11th, 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.

Attention All Women!

"Women Walking in Faith"

Our group of faith-filled women will meet on Wednesday, November 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.



Food Pantry

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

Sanctuary Memorial Fund

We acknowledge these contributions in memory of:

Anna Marie Torok

by: Theresa Racek, Carl & Barbara Spesak

Karin U. Wahlstrom

by: Jay H. Gilbert & Family, John & Margaret Tremblay

Laura J. Cleary

by: Children of Laura J. Cleary

Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord

Mass Schedule

Monday, November 10, 2025

Saint Leo the Great

Wis 1:1-7; Lk 17:1-6

7:00 PM Joe Lebiechewski

Tuesday, November 11th

Saint Martin of Tours

Wis 2:23-3:9; Lk 17:7-10

8:00 AM Karin Wahlstrom

Wednesday, November 12th

Saint Josaphat

Wis 6:1-11; Lk 17:11-19

8:00 AM Teresa Fronheiser

Thursday, November 13th Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini

Wis 7:22b-8:1; Lk 17:20-25

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

Friday, November 14th

Wis 13:1-9; Lk 17:26-37

8:00 AM Ligaya Bergonia

Saturday and Sunday, November 15th & 16th

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mal 3:19-20a; 2 Thes 3:7-12; Lk 21:5-19

4:30 PM John Slanga

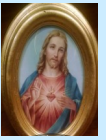
8:30 AM Eleanor Burnatowski

10:30 AM Karl & Phyllis Dunst

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.

Turkey Donations

The Outreach Committee will be providing Turkey Dinners again this year for Thanksgiving to those in need. If you are interested in donating a turkey or gift card, please contact the parish office or Michelle Evans 610-737-9469. Deadline: November 22nd. We are so grateful for the continued support of our work, God Bless you all!



Recently Deceased

Please pray for the souls of parishioners Ernie Schwab and Marie Gutai, who recently passed away. Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and may their families know your peace and comfort.



OCIA
Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

If you or anyone you know is interested in finding out how to become a Catholic, our OCIA meetings are held on Sundays at 11:30 AM in the Weekend Sacristy.

For more information, contact Helen Moyer at 610-433-6102.



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.



Feed Your Faith Holiday Orders

Stress-free Christmas shopping is here! On Monday, November 17th, gift card orders to Raise Right Scrip Center will go in for Christmas gifts and shopping every two weeks until Christmas. Orders must be prepaid and in the parish office by Monday noon on November 17th, December 1st and December 15th. Pick up by the following Friday or on the weekend after Mass. (Lists of available stores with order forms are in the Parish Office.)

Proper Church Etiquette

We ask you to kindly refrain from eating candy, chewing gum or eating other food while in church unless medically necessary. As the Blessed Sacrament is present, eating other foods or drinking drinks is disrespectful to our Lord.



Thank you to all who have responded to the call, but as groups are being organized, please be sure you have turned in your form, even if you are already a member of a committee or ministry, so that the organizers know you are still interested. There are also a few new ministries like Seven Sisters Apostolate and Wee Worship that may interest you. Perhaps some of the tried and true, Men of St. Francis or Women Walking in Faith, or do you have a talent that you can share not on the list. Feel free to write it down. Form available ONLINE as well as in our Parish Office.



Allentown Central Catholic
OPEN HOUSE
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2-4PM



PRE-REGISTER FOR OUR OPEN HOUSE AND ENTER A CHANCE TO WIN A \$500 TUITION CREDIT FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR!

Meet our Principal and Administrators, tour the campus with our Student Ambassadors, and learn about our clubs and activities.

Contact our Admissions Director Lisa Schultz at lschultz@acchs.info with questions.

Academic Success. Catholic Values.

301 N Fourth Street, Allentown, PA 18102 | (610) 437-4601 | www.acchs.info

ENROLL TODAY FOR 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR!



DIocese of
ALLeNTOWN

Diocese of Allentown Youth Rally (Grades 7-12)

Bethlehem Catholic High School, 2133 Madison Avenue, Bethlehem, PA, Saturday, November 22nd, 10 AM to 5 PM. Join us for a day of inspiring presentations, heartfelt prayer, uplifting music and much more. Together with your peers you will celebrate the one true Light—Jesus Christ—and let His love “Reignite” you. Mass at 4 PM will be celebrated by Bishop Schlert. Families are invited to join. \$10/person, lunch included.
zhodgskin@allentowndiocese.org



Our Weekly Stewardship

Weekend of November 1st & 2nd, 2025

Sunday in Pew	\$ 4,169.00
Sunday Online	\$ 2,644.00

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.



Saint Francis of Assisi Parish

1.2K followers • 33 following

Prayers For Our Loved Ones

November is a profound month in the Catholic Church, often referred to as the "Month of the Holy Souls." This dedication highlights the importance of praying for those who have died.

For the month of November, join us in prayer for our loved ones who have passed on our social media platforms. Send your loved one's name(s) to Camille Stockdale at stockp8792@gmail.com and we will pray for a few each and every day together via social media through the end of November.

May we pray for one another.

Support College Students In Their Faith



NEWMAN
MINISTRY

Studies show that over 80% of Catholic students disengage from their faith during

these years. To address this, the Diocese has partnered with Newman Connection, a national nonprofit that connects graduating seniors with Catholic campus ministries—even at non-Catholic colleges and military bases. This ensures students have immediate access to the Sacraments and a Catholic community upon arrival. Participation is free and easy. Families, visit: [Newman Connection High School Outreach](#). Students register, Newman Connection notifies the appropriate campus minister, and then the campus minister will reach out to the student.

Have you signed up for Flocknote yet?



Flocknote

Text: **STFRAN**

To: **84576**

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.

Your information is completely private. No one sees your contact information. The emails and text messages are generated through the system by the group leader or the Administrator (Father Rich). It is completely FREE. There is an App that you can download, but you do not need the app in order to receive or send messages. You can unsubscribe at any time! To join, use your cell phone and simply text the word STFRAN to the number 84576.

English as a Second Language (ESL) Classes

Open to all levels, this year-round, volunteer-led program supports Spanish speakers and individuals from other communities in learning or improving their English. In addition to language skills, participants are introduced to the Catholic faith, the lives of the Saints, and Church traditions. Classes are held at the Diocesan Hispanic Center: 219 W Susquehanna St, Allentown. We are in need of volunteer teachers and assistants to support this program, which provides a Catholic and Christian environment for those who wish to learn English while strengthening their faith. If you feel called to serve and make a difference in our community, please use contact information below.

For registration, please contact the Office of Hispanic Affairs at 610-866-0581 ext. 2032 or email arodriguez@allentown-diocese.org

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.



Scam Alert!



THEY ARE AT IT AGAIN!

If you get an email from anyone at the Parish Office, including Fr. Rich, and you are asked to send money or gift cards, do not respond to it, it is a scam! This scam has been going around the Diocese for several years and it has recently surfaced again. If you aren't sure if it is legitimate, contact Fr. Rich before responding to the email.

Cleanup at Holy Savior/Resurrection Cemeteries

There is a general cleanup of the entire cemetery beginning on November 10th at Holy Savior Cemetery and November 17th at Resurrection Cemetery. Everything placed on the gravesites will be removed in preparation for Christmas. New flowers can be placed beginning November 17th at Holy Savior and November 24th at Resurrection.

To Arrange for Christian Burial, contact:

Resurrection Cemetery—610-395-3819

Holy Savior Cemetery—610-866-2372

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

John Patrick Publishing Company prints our weekly bulletin. To place ads on the back of our bulletin, contact Michele Barron at 484-300-2062.

Healing and Deliverance Service

Join us for a Healing and Deliverance service on Tuesday, November 11, 6-9 PM at St. Thomas More Church, Allentown. There will be Mass and Healing Adoration led by Fr. Dominic Valanmanal, a world-renowned Catholic priest with the charisms of healing and deliverance. Admission is free.

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 November 12th (Second Wednesday) at 1 PM, 610-867-7424 x 16 for more info.

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 November 14-16, 2025. For more info visit: <https://www.wwme-philly.org>.



Rachel's Vineyard: Healing Retreat from Abortion

Are you struggling from an abortion? Whether you were pressured into an abortion, were unable to prevent a family member from having one, or you were a part of the abortion decision, this retreat will help you move beyond any guilt, shame, or anger you have. Our weekend retreats are uniquely designed to help you experience the mercy and compassion of God in a safe, confidential, non-judgmental group environment. This weekend will help you find a new voice and transform the pain of the past into hope. Discover peace and healing. When: November 21-23, 2025 in Washington, NJ. To register, or for more information, please contact Leah by email at leah@soulfilledbygrace.co. site or text / call (609)709-3479 Ana at ana@soulfilledbygrace.co. site or text/call (908)319-2950. Website is rachelsvineyard.org.

O, Come, All Ye Faithful to 'It's Almost Christmas' at Cathedral

Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, 18th & Turner Streets, Allentown ~ 610-433-6461, Saturday (10AM-6PM) & Sunday (8:30AM-1PM), November 22nd & 23rd ~ Bazaar (Location: Parish Activity Center below the Church. Theme Baskets, Bake Sale, Craft Tables, Stocking Stuffers, Oplatki, Silent Auction, Refreshments, 50/50 Raffle, Strolling Carolers. Menu this year again includes home made pierogies, halushki, egg rolls, breakfast sandwiches, and other delicious items! Proceeds benefit Cathedral Capital Improvements Fund.

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.



Podcast for Catholic Parents

Ready, Willing, & Able Podcast: Vocations and Parenting The Allentown Diocese Office of Education offers the "Ready, Willing, & Able" podcast for Catholic parents. The newest episode explores how parents can trust God and support their children as they help them discern their vocations. Host Genevieve O'Connor has an MTS in Moral Theology from the University of Notre Dame, and she invites a series of guests to explore a wide range of topics, including: family prayer, modesty, and bringing the liturgical seasons alive for kids. Listen to Ready, Willing, and Able on its website: <https://www.buzzsprout.com/2410685>, or look it up on your favorite podcast streaming platform. Click here for graphics.

Liturgical Ministers Schedule

Saturday and Sunday, November 15th & 16th

	<u>4:30 PM</u>	<u>8:30AM</u>	<u>10:30 AM</u>
Lector	L. Bauer	H. Moyer	M.K. McMahon
Eucharistic Ministers	F. & S. Koerbler, M. Evans	T. Fallon, F. & J. Lenahan	J. Young, L. Moser, M.P. Tran
Cantor	J. Fignar	P. Rollins	G. Rodriguez
Organist	D. Badesso	R. Venditto	D. Badesso
Altar Servers	J. Fittipaldi	R. Rollins	J. Martinez, N. Schwenk
Sacristan	D. Wascavage	P. McFadden	P. McFadden

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

Michelle Evans 610-737-9469

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

"Feed Your Faith" Gift Card Program

"Feed Your Faith" is the Parish's easiest fund-raising program. It costs you nothing extra, but it benefits the Parish immensely! Each gift card you buy has a return of 1% to 14% profit to the parish. **The number in parenthesis represents the percentage of profit the Parish makes.** Please consider buying the gift cards to do your grocery shopping, give as gifts, or just to purchase instead of using cash at the retailers. Please see the list below for our participating retailers. *These gift cards are usually available every day in the Parish Office!*



Amazon.com (2%): \$25, \$50, \$100

Applebees (8%): \$10, \$25

Banana Republic (14%): \$25

Barnes and Nobles (8%): \$10, \$25

Bath and Body Works (12%): \$10, \$25

Bonefish Grill (10%): \$25

Boscov's (8%): \$25

Carrabbas (10%): \$25

Cheesecake Factory (5%): \$25

Dunkin Donuts (3%): \$10

Gap (14%): \$25

Giant (10%): \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50, \$100

Home Depot (4%): \$25, \$100

Kohl's (4%): \$10, \$25

Longhorn Steakhouse (8%): \$25

Lowe's (4%): \$25, \$100

Macy's (10%): \$25

McDonald's (2%): \$25, \$10

Old Navy (14%): \$25

Olive Garden (8%): \$25

Outback Steakhouse (10%): \$25

Panera Bread (8%): \$10

Red Robin (8%): \$25

Red Lobster (8%): \$25

Redner's Warehouse (5%): \$25, \$50, \$100

Sam's Club (2.5%): \$25, \$100

Starbucks (4.5%): \$10

Target (2.5%): \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100

Texas Roadhouse (8%): \$25

Visa (1.25%): \$25, \$50, \$100 (no activation fee!)

Wal-Mart (2.5%): \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100

Wawa (1%): \$25

Wegman's (5%): \$25, \$50, \$100

Weis (5%): \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50, \$100

