

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

WWW.STFRANCISALLENTOWN.ORG

FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM: @STFRANCISALLENTOWN



August 17, 2025
Twentieth 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 August 17, 2025 is

*In Memory of Walter Kleinschuster
By Mary "Mitzi" Kleinschuster*

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 August 17, 2025 are
*In Memory of Joseph & Mary Sagmeister
By Barbara Puzzella*

Diocesan Cemetery Mausoleum

The new Diocesan Cemetery Mausoleum, Tongues as of Fire-Assumption of Mary Mausoleum is now available at Holy Savior Cemetery for the purchase of entombment rights in a single or companion crypt or interment in side by side niches for cremated remains. The Resurrection-Ascension Mausoleum is available at both Resurrection (610-395-3819 x1) and Holy Savior (610-866-2372 x1) Cemeteries.



Our Weekly Stewardship

Weekend of August 9 & 10, 2025

Sunday in Pew	\$ 5,315.00
Sunday Online	\$ 3,004.00
Second Collection in Pew	\$ 1,236.00
Second Collection Online	\$ 140.00

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.



Recently Deceased

Please pray for the souls of parishioners Jacqueline Hubrich and Joseph J. Fernandes, Jr., who recently passed away. Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and may their families know your peace and comfort.

Scam Alert!

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.



Mass Schedule

Monday, August 18, 2025

Jgs 2:11-19; Mt 19:16-22

7:00 PM Frobe & Evelyn Caron

Saint John Eudes

Tuesday, August 19th

Jgs 6:11-24a; Mt 19:23-30

8:00 AM Jodi Niebish

Saint Bernard

Wednesday, August 20th

Jgs 9:6-15; Mt 20:1-16

8:00 AM Laura Cleary

Saint Pius X, Pope

Thursday, August 21st

Jgs 11:29-39a; Mt 22:14-21

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

Friday, August 22nd

Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22; Mt: 22:34-40

The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 AM Rose Bundra

Saturday and Sunday, August 23rd & 24th

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 66:18-21; Heb 12:5-7, 11-13; Lk 13:22-30

4:30 PM Bill & Elvira Stalsitz

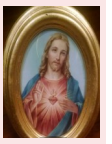
8:30 AM John Signarovitz

10:30 AM Adolf Sodke

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.



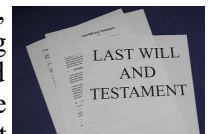
Summer Photos Fun



We would love to feature your family's summer fun in our parish social media and bulletin board. Photos can be sent to stockp8792-@gmail.com. We hope you can share your summer memories with your parish family!!!

August is National Make-A-Will Month

August is National Make-A-Will Month, and the Diocese of Allentown is sharing a free will-writing tool to help steward your family, finances, and faith. Estate planning is an act of faithfulness that empowers you to thoughtfully honor the blessings you've received from God. Consider creating a will that includes a legacy gift for our parish. Visit FreeWill.com/allentowndiocese to make a will at no cost.



New Parish Center Office Hours



Beginning Monday, September 1, 2025 the Parish Center Office will be OPEN on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9 AM – 3 PM and Saturdays from 12:00 – 6:00 PM. The Center will be CLOSED on Wednesdays, Holidays and Holydays.



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.



**ENROLL TODAY FOR THE
2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR!**

Contact Admissions Director Cara Meskill at
cmeskill@acchs.info with questions or to tour the campus.

Academic Success. Catholic Values.

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

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



PREP Program at Cathedral

As many of you are aware, the PREP Program at St. Francis Parish is no

longer held onsite. We have joined with the Program at the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena.

Please contact Mrs. Donna Sciacca, Director of Religious Education at the Cathedral now to register your child(ren) from St. Francis of Assisi Parish at 610-432-7655 or by email: prep@cathedral-church.org. Registration forms can be downloaded from St. Catharine of Siena's website, and there are printed copies in our Parish Office.

NOW is the time to register. **(A late fee of \$25 is applied to every registration received after July 14, 2025.)**



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!







Nosotros estamos contratando!

La Escuela Regional St. John Vianney en Allentown busca personas profesionales, positivas y llenas de fe para unirse a nuestro equipo durante el año escolar 2025-2026. Buscamos candidatos para los siguientes puestos:

- Maestro de preescolar a tiempo completo
- Asistente de preescolar a tiempo completo, asistente de jardín de infancia a tiempo completo
- Maestros sustitutos (todos los grados)
- Supervisores del comedor
- Supervisores de cuidado prolongado por la mañana y por la tarde.

Escanea el código QR para obtener más información sobre estos puestos y cómo solicitarlos. Dado que también se requieren autorizaciones, los candidatos interesados deben presentar su solicitud y realizar el seguimiento indicado lo antes posible. Esperamos que considere SJVRs y recuerde... ¡siempre es un gran día para ser un bulldog!





In Faith - Celebrating Today, Embracing Tomorrow!



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In Faith - Celebrating Today, Embracing Tomorrow!

"Behold I Make All Things New"

Unlocking the Secret to Holy Marriage and Family Life

Presented by United Hearts Life

Guest speaker will be Fr. Jim Blount, S.O.L.T. Sunday, August 17th, 3:00 PM at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 3219 Santee Rd., Bethlehem, PA 18020. There will be a healing service following the talk. Suggested Freewill offering of \$20, no registration required. Questions: uhlmanager@gmail.com, Mary Ann Morales 610-703-9728.



The Friend Ship Ministry

St. Ann's Parish Life Center, 526 Fairview St., Emmaus, 2 to 4 PM on Sunday, August 17th (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/uformXcchgB-NapWC7>, or email mciofalo@comcast.net.

St. Mary's Sizzlin' Summer Bingo

St. Mary's Church, 122 Union St., Catasauqua will hold their Sizzlin' Summer Cash Bingo on Sunday, August 17th in their Parish Center. Doors and kitchen open at 11:30 AM with Bingo beginning at 1:00 PM. The cost for Bingo is \$15 which includes 15 games, six specials, and one jackpot round. To keep the cost at \$15, no outside food or drinks are permitted. The kitchen will be selling your St. Mary's favorites. Please bring your daubers – no hardboards. Reservations are encouraged by emailing kim.stmarys122@gmail.com or calling 610-264-0332.

LAOH Mass to Commemorate Our Lady of Knock

To commemorate Our Lady of Knock's visitation in Ireland on August 21, 1879, the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians (LAOH) invites you to celebrate the feast day of Our Lady of Knock on Saturday with us, August 16, 2025, at 5:00 PM. Our Lady of Perpetual Help Roman Catholic Church, 3219 Santee Rd, Bethlehem, PA 18020.

Anointing of the Sick Mass with Bishop Schlert

Bishop Schlert will celebrate Mass and the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick at St. Thomas More, Allentown, on Sunday, August 24, 2025 at 12 PM. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is given to anyone who is seriously ill, either physically or mentally, or to anyone advanced in age or facing a medical procedure. This great gift of grace offers holistic healing by praying for a cure, but, more importantly, for the gift of hope and peace that the sufferer would be united to Christ on the Cross.

Cursillo Informational Meeting

Are you considering attending this year's Cursillo Men's or Women's Weekends? Do you have questions about Cursillo in general? If so - we are hosting an information night on August 25, 2025 at 6:00 PM at St. Catherine of Siena's Parish Hall in Allentown. Any and all interested in hearing more about a weekend are invited to attend.

If you would like to speak to someone from the parish about Cursillo, feel free to contact Theresa Racek.



Mass and Dinner for the Memorial of St. Monica

Bishop Alfred Schlert will celebrate a Mass for the Memorial of St. Monica at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, August 27, at St. Theresa Church, 1408 Easton Road, Hellertown. Mass will be followed by a buffet dinner in Friendship Hall. Tickets for the dinner are \$10 per person. R.S.V.P. at stmonicaministry27@gmail.com or call the St. Theresa Rectory at 610-838-7045. Come join in petition and fellowship with those who are praying for the return to the Church of fallen-away loved ones. This evening is being sponsored by the St. Monica Ministry.

St. John the Baptist, Stiles Church Picnic

St. John the Baptist RC Church, 3024 S Ruch St. Whitehall (Stiles), Sunday, August 31st from 1-9 PM on the parish grounds. Music by The Pennsylvania Villagers 1-4PM and Joyous 5-9PM. Join us for delicious foods, including homemade pierogies, children's games, raffles, refreshments, Bake Sale. Free Parking. Rain or Shine.

Padre Pio Relics at Annunciation in Catasauqua

Padre Pio Relics will come to Annunciation Church, 122 Union St., Catasauqua on Sunday, August 31st. The day begins with a 8:00 AM Mass followed by a brief presentation from Nicholas Salkowski, Director of Communications from the National Centre for Padre Pio. The Rosary will be recited at noon, followed again by a brief presentation by Nicholas. Following that, Father Tolentino will celebrate the sacrament of the anointing of the sick at 1:00 PM. The relics will be available for public veneration 9:00 AM until 2:00 PM. Please contact the parish office with any questions at 610-264-0332 or by email: kim.stmarys122@gmail.com

Daily Masses with Bishop Schlert

Bishop Schlert will celebrate Daily Masses at parishes in every county in the Diocese in honor of individuals and families who give and benefit from the Because We Are Catholic Annual Appeal. All are invited to attend.

Wednesday, September 3rd – St. Joseph, Coopersburg (5050 St. Joseph Rd.) 8:00 AM.

Thursday, September 4th – Holy Family, Nazareth (410 W. Center St.) 8:30 AM.

Canonization of Blessed Carlo Acutis

There will be a Mass in Celebration of Canonization of Blessed Carlo Acutis at St. Anthony of Padua, Easton; special Mass and rededication of Carlo Acutis statue, celebrated by Bishop Alfred Schlert at 4:30 PM on Saturday, September 6th. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament before Mass 3-4 PM; Veneration of the Relic of Carlo Acutis after Mass 5:30 PM.

Men's Retreat Weekend September 5-7

The Lehigh Valley men's retreat group, dedicated to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, invites men to the yearly retreat weekend at Malvern Retreat House in Malvern, PA. This year, the men's weekend will feature Bishop Schlert as a guest speaker and a simulcast of the canonization of Blessed Carlo Acutis on Sunday morning, directly from Rome! Contact: Anthony Scarselletti, Our Lady of Perpetual Help group, 610-393-4671, OLPHascarsletti@gmail.com



Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass

Married couples from across the Diocese are invited to renew their vows and thank God for the gift of the Sacrament of Marriage during the Annual Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass, to be celebrated Sunday, September 14, 2025 at 3 PM. Doors will open at 2 PM. The Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Alfred Schlert at the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, 1825 West Turner St., Allentown, PA 18104. Register at <https://www.allentowndiocese.org/anniversary-mass>.

Men of St. Francis Meeting

The Men of St Francis will meet on Tuesday, September 16th at 7:00 PM in Heritage Hall. All men of the parish age 18 and over are welcome to attend. For additional info., contact Bob Webre at 484-225-0984.



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.

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>.

Do You Like to Sing?

We could use some additional cantors for our weekend Masses. If you would like to become a cantor, please contact Rosanne Venditto, our Choir Director/Organist at 484-225-2080.



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

Liturgical Ministers Schedule Saturday and Sunday, August 23rd & 24th

Lector

Eucharistic Ministers

Cantor

Organist

Altar Servers

Sacristan

4:30 PM

P. Stiles

F. & S. Koerbler, L. Eberly

J. Fignar

D. Badesso

J. DeLeo

8:30AM

B. Beck

J. & P. Philapavage, H. Moyer

M. Issermoyer

R. Venditto

T. Jacob

10:30 AM

D. Colom

B. Ocasio, J. Colom, D. Ruiz

A. Eaves

D. Badesso

J. & J. Burgos

T. Jacob

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ATTIC TREASURES - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

As you know Attic Treasures will be here VERY SOON. Volunteers are needed in a VARIETY OF WAYS!!! We would LOVE to have your help.

TABLE SET UP -

Sept. 8th/9th - this involves heavy lifting so any and all that are able to help would be appreciated - contact the Parish Office for details

WEEKDAY WORK -

Sept. 15th, 16th, 17th, 22nd, 23rd, 24th; 29th; 30th and Oct. 1st; 6th, 7th and 8th - 9:30 AM(ish) to Noon(ish)

This work includes cleaning off (hopefully not too much), pricing and setting up donated items. You do NOT have to commit to every day - but as often as you are able. Just show up and we will put you to work!

DROP OFF DAYS -

Sept. 27th AND Oct. 4th 9 AM TO 12 Noon - this involves lifting and moving items from our friends' trunks through Heritage Hall down into the Parish Hall. This is a great opportunity for those who are unable to help during the work week. This is also a great Service Hour opportunity for our Confirmandi and High School students. Just show up on the date and time you wish to work; let them know you are there to help; and they will get you working!!!

ATTIC TREASURES EVENT - OCT 11th, 12th AND 13th

BAKED GOODS - We always need baked goodies to sell throughout the weekend

KITCHEN - Roy and Paula Rollins can always use help cooking, serving, cleaning and money handling.

FLOOR WORK - We need numerous volunteers on the floor - no experience necessary. Assist our customers, clean up as the treasures become messy and be an ambassador for St. Francis.

CASHIERS - We need numerous volunteers to check people out and wrap their treasures as they make their purchases and thank everyone for supporting St. Francis.

GET THE WORD OUT- all of us can invite our friends, family, co-workers, neighbors to this HUGE FUN EVENT. One of the greatest treasures of attic treasures is the time we get to spend together as a parish family!!!!

Any questions - reach out to Ray and Phyllis Johnson.

"Feed Your Faith" Gift Card Program

"Feed Your Faith" is the Parish's easiest fundraising 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%): \$20, \$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

