

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

WWW.STFRANCISALLENTOWN.ORG

FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM: @STFRANCISALLENTOWN

*August 30, 2026
Twenty-Second 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 - 6:45 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 for 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 30, 2026 is
*Special Intentions of Linda Signarovitz***



Floral Intentions

Floral intentions for in front of the Holy Family and the Sacred Heart can be offered in memory of a loved one or in honor of a living person(s), or an anniversary of marriage. It is our wish to beautify the altar with your spiritual intention(s). A donation can be made for live flowers to be placed in front of one statue for \$30.00 or \$60.00

The flowers in front of both The Holy Family and The Sacred Heart for the week of August 30, 2026 are for the Special Intentions of Larry & Conchita Moser offered by themselves



Christmas Bus Trip

St. Francis of Assisi will run a Bus Trip to The American Music Theatre's 2026 Christmas Show, "Winter Wonderland" on

Wednesday, December 2nd, with a stop at Shady Maple for their lunch buffet prior to the show. \$145 per person covers bus and driver tips, meal and show

Mass Schedule

Monday, August 31, 2026

1 Cor 2:1-5; Lk 4:16-30

7:00 PM Jeanette Cawley

Tuesday, Sept. 1st

1 Cor 3

;1-9; Lk 4:31-37

8:00 AM Dena Kraichely

Wednesday, Sept. 2nd

1 Cor 2:10-16; Lk 4:38-44

8:00 AM Ernest G. Schwab

Thursday, Sept. 3rd

St. Gregory the Great

1 Cor 3:18-23; Lk 5:1-11

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

Friday, Sept. 4th

1 Cor 4:1-5; Lk 5:33-39

8:00 AM Intentions of Larry & Conchita Moser

Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 5th & 6th

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ez 33:7-9; Rom 13:8-10; Mt 18:15-20

4:30 PM Barbara Quigney

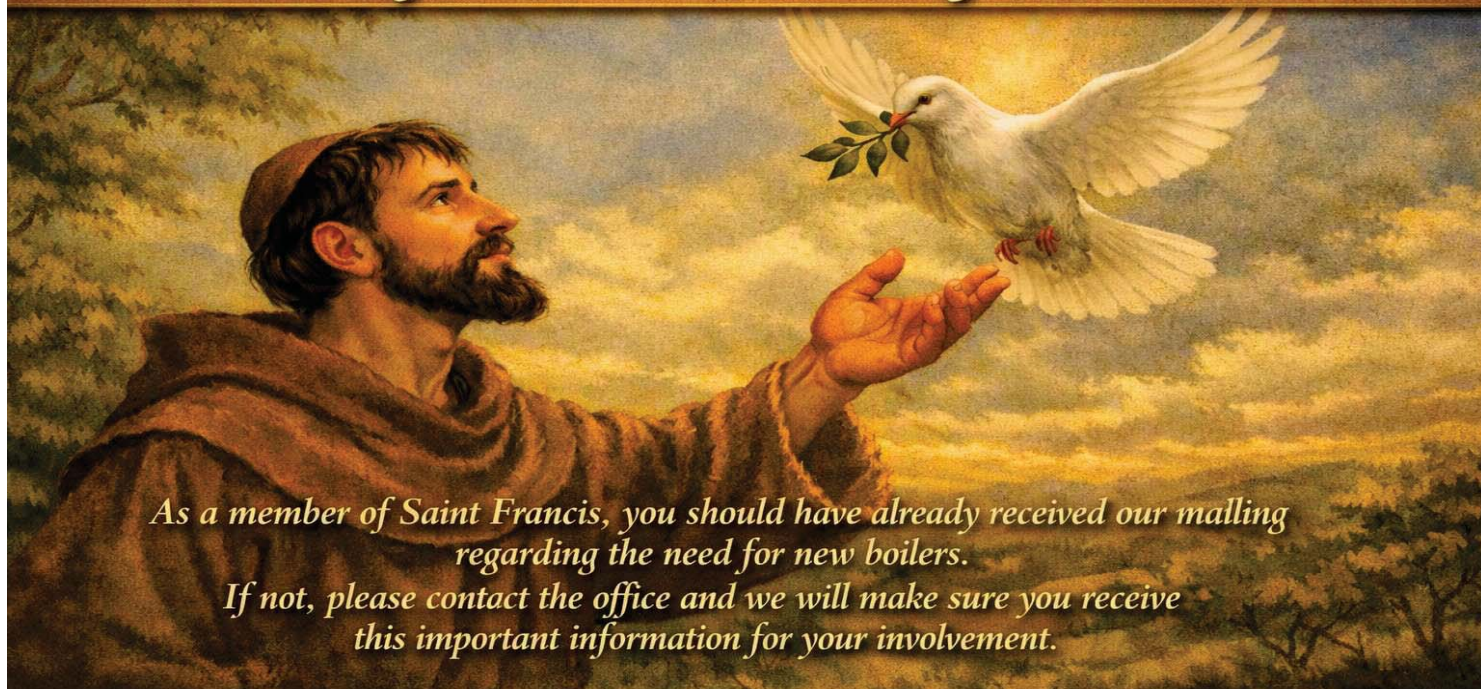
8:30 AM Sanctuary Memorial Fund

10:30 AM Mario Zanni

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 Monday 7:00 PM Mass, in addition to the Saturday confessions at 3:15 PM.

Warming our Church – Nourishing our Faith



As a member of Saint Francis, you should have already received our mailing regarding the need for new boilers.

If not, please contact the office and we will make sure you receive this important information for your involvement.



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 and respectful environments. 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.



Book of Petitions

In the Narthex, you will find a book for writing your prayer intentions, petitions and requests. These intentions will be mentioned in the Universal Prayer at all weekend Masses. We ask that only first names be listed (if at all) as to keep people's privacy.



August 30, 2026
Twenty-Second Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Vocations Ministry

"Whoever wishes to come after me, must deny himself first, take up his cross and follow me." (Matthew 16:24)

Jesus entrusts His Church to faithful servants and calls each of us to lay down our lives in love and service. Priests, religious and married couples all share in this call to embrace sacrifice for the good of others. Consider how God may be inviting you. Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 610-437-0755 or via email: jmaria@allentowndiocese.org



IT IS FOR: Adults (18 years or Older) who are:

- Not Baptized or
- Baptized in another Christian Church and interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith or
- Baptized into the Catholic Faith but have not received First Eucharist or Confirmation.

Curious About the Catholic Faith? Join Us!

Is your spouse, fiancé, or a friend not Catholic, or do they want to learn more about the Church? We warmly invite spouses and loved ones to attend our OCIA sessions. You do not have to commit to joining the Church. This is a safe space to ask questions, share faith, and learn together.

When & Where: Specific dates to be announced, but we hope to begin by mid-September

Contact: To learn more or sign up, reach out to Helen Moyer at 610-730-8263 or the Parish Office at 610-433-6102.

Liturgical Ministers Schedule

Saturday and Sunday, September 5 & 6, 2026

	<u>4:30 PM</u>	<u>8:30AM</u>	<u>10:30 AM</u>
Lector	P. Stiles	K. McFadden	J. Carrasquillo
Eucharistic Ministers	J. DeLeo, M. Evans	D. Issermoyer	L. Moser, T. Racek, J. Young
Cantor	H. Moyer	D. & S. Gerancher	
Organist	J. Fignar	M. Maramag	G. Rodriguez
Altar Servers	D. Badesso	R. Venditto	D. Badesso
Sacristan	F. & S. Koerbler	C. Peischl	J. & J. Burgos
Rosary	J. Johnson	P. McFadden	P. McFadden
	H. Moyer	M. Issermoyer	L.A. Kocon



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@cathedralchurch.org. Registration forms can be downloaded from St. Catharine of Siena's website. NOW is the time to register. A late fee of \$25 is applied to every registration received after July 29, 2026.

Seeking Catechists and Co-Catechists for our Religious Education program.

*** Volunteers receive 50% off the total cost of their child(ren)s PREP registration fee. ***

Qualifications:

- Are over the age of 18, and have received your Sacraments of Baptism, First Eucharist, and Confirmation;
- You are a practicing Catholic who lives your life in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church. Attends weekly Mass and receives the Eucharist and attends Confession regularly.
- All volunteers are required to obtain ALL child clearances specified by the Diocese of Allentown.
- Prior teaching experience is a plus but not required. We will train you.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the PREP Office via email or phone at:
Donna Sciacca, Director of Religious Education
prep@cathedral-church.org
ph. 610-432-7655

Our Weekly Stewardship



Weekend of August 22 & 23, 2026

Sunday in Pew	\$ 4,482.00
Sunday Online	\$ 2,613.84
Second Collection in Pew	\$ 1,388.00
Second Collection Online	\$ 20.00

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 info.



Recitation of the Rosary

The Rosary will be recited before all Masses the weekend of September 5 & 6 2026. The Rosary begins about 25 minutes before each Mass.



Please Join Our Prayer Chain

Our prayer chain operates by phone and email. We are always looking to recruit **more people** to pray for those in need. This is a simple but powerful way to help our parishioners; please consider joining us! Email Stephanie Epler at sepler@stfrancisallentown.org to be added or to make a prayer request. All emails will be kept confidential. A group email will be sent as each prayer request is received. Of course, you may still call in prayer requests by phone at 610-433-6102.

Assumption BVM Basket Social

Assumption BVM Parish, 22nd St. & Washington Ave., Northampton, Basket Social on Saturday, September 12th (12-7 PM) and Sunday, September 13 (8AM-1 PM).

Drawings held on Sunday starting at 1:30 PM, need not be present to win. Homemade foods and baked goods for sale. Tickets are 25 for \$5 on sale at the door.



Recently Deceased

Please pray for the soul of Helen Roveda who recently passed away. Grant her eternal rest, O Lord, and may her family know your peace and comfort.

Attention Parish Groups



Please share any news of your group with Camille Stockdale so she can promote news, events, etc. on social media (FACEBOOK and INSTAGRAM) and Flocknote. Camille can be reached via email at stockp8792@gmail.com. The more we

can promote parish activities, the more chances of being heard and your message received!!!



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.



Parish Office Closing

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed on Monday, September 7th, for Labor Day.

PARISH PHONE DIRECTORY

BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE

Deb Erkinger 610-433-6102

BUSINESS MANAGER

Dennis Reichard 610-433-6102 ext 34
dreichard@stfrancisallentown.org

CHOIR DIRECTOR/ORGANIST

Rosanne Venditto 484-225-2080

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Milly Dietrick 610-433-6102

"FEED YOUR FAITH" GIFT CARD PROGRAM

Stephanie Epler 610-433-6102
sepler@stfrancisallentown.org

LECTORS

MaryKay McMahon 610-433-6102

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

Kate McFadden 610-737-7232

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 SECRETARY/BULLETIN

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

SENIOR CITIZENS GROUP

Madeline Klotz 610-395-7386

ST. JOHN VIANNEY REGIONAL SCHOOL

Matthew Carlin, Principal 610-435-8981

ST. MARTHA'S MINISTRY

Tara Burkus 607-760-8743

VOCATIONS COMMITTEE

Heidi Beck 610-433-6102

WEBSITE

Camille Stockdale 610-433-6102
stockp8792@gmail.com

"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, \$25

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, \$25

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

St. Francis Attic Treasures

Attic Treasures

Bake Sale

Food to Eat in or Take out

Saturday, October 10th —10:00 AM-6:30 PM

Sunday, October 11th —12:00 Noon-5:00 PM

Monday, October 12th—10:00 AM-2:00 PM - BAG DAY

WE CANNOT ACCEPT:

Tires, Major Appliances (Stoves, Washers, Dryers, etc. No Upholstered or Large Furniture (sofas, dining tables, etc.) No Encyclopedias, Magazines, Baby Furniture (cribs, walkers, play pens, car seats, highchairs.) No Electronics (computers and accessories.) No Kerosene Heaters or Gas Grills. ***NO VCR's, VHS TAPES, 8 TRACKS, CASSETTES, CD's or BOOKS.***

**Newspapers and plastic bags
are always appreciated.**

DONATIONS NEEDED:

Items can be delivered to Heritage Hall Cedar Street ramp door. Please have items clean and small appliances working. There will be helpers at the ramp for your donations.

2026 Donation Drop-off:

Saturdays:

September 26th

October 3rd

9:00 AM—12:00 PM

Help is needed on Donation Days



We will be working in the Church Hall every Monday and Tuesday from 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM beginning September 8th (day after Labor Day) until the event.

All help is greatly appreciated. Thank you for all you do for our parish!

If you have any questions, please call Phyllis, 484-522-9619.