

Saint Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church

1046 West Cedar Street - Allentown, Pennsylvania 18102
(610) 433-6102

www.stfrancisallentown.org

facebook: @stfrancisallentown

Pastor

Reverend Monsignor Victor F. Finelli, Th. M., J.C.L.

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Robert Young
Deacon Ricardo Reyes



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 & 12:05 PM



Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:15-4:00 PM

Anytime by appointment



Adoration Chapel

Please consider spending some time with our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Our Adoration Chapel is open daily from 6:00 AM—9:00 PM.



January 5, 2020

The Epiphany Of The Lord

We, the people of Saint Francis of Assisi Church, a Roman Catholic Parish in the Diocese of Allentown, a faith-filled people, united in the Holy Spirit and nourished by the Eucharist, strive to be the Body of Christ. We manifest our unity through the joyful celebration of the Sacraments. We pledge to use our gifts and resources to live the Faith, preach the Word, and Service others as we welcome all into our faith community.



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 offered on a Sunday morning from 9:00 to 10:15 AM. Please contact Mrs. Camille Stockdale, our Director of Religious Education, for more information regarding our PREP (610-435-0364).

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 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.

Ministry to the Sick

Visits to the hospital are made on a regular basis. 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 communion.

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, Dr. Emily Kleintop (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 Cara Meskill, the Director of Admissions, at (610) 437-4601 for more information.

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.

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

Sr. Meg Cole, S.S.J., M.S., LMFT
610-332-0442, ext. 2019

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.

Mass Schedule

Monday, January 6th

1 Jn 3:22-4:6; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Saint Andre Bessette

No Mass

Tuesday, January 7th

1 Jn 4:7-10; Mt 6:34-44

Saint Raymond of Penafort

8:00 AM William Franko

Wednesday, January 8th

1 Jn 4:11-18; Mk 6:45-52

10:30 AM Charles Webber

Thursday, January 9th

1 Jn 4:19-5:4; Lk 4:14-22

8:00 AM Grace Romanyshyn

Friday, January 10

1 Jn 5:5-13; Lk 5:12-16

8:00 AM Mary Ann Legath

January 11th & 12th

The Baptism of the Lord

Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-3; Mt 3:13-17

4:30 PM Regina Niedrowski

8:30 AM Anna Santa

10:30 AM Raymond Sannie

People of St. Francis of Assisi Parish



Sanctuary Lamp Memorials

If you would like to memorialize the red sanctuary lamp next to 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 of December 29th is:

***In Memory of William Franko
by Audrey, Beth and Curt***

Recently Deceased

Please pray for the soul parishioner Charles L. Epler, Sr., who recently passed away. Grant him eternal rest, O Lord, and may his family know your peace and comfort.



Sanctuary Memorial Fund

We acknowledge these contributions in memory of:

Charles L. Epler, Sr.

by: Larry, Conchita and Sonia Moser, Richard Epler and Family

Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord

Men of St. Francis' Monthly Breakfast

This Sunday, January 5th, breakfast will be served from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM in the Church Hall. The cost is \$6.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children (age 4 and under free!) Menu choices include eggs made to order, egg beaters, French toast, pancakes, ham or sausage, orange juice, coffee, tea or hot chocolate.



O Sola Magnarum Urbium

(O Bethlehem, of Noblest Cities)

Bethlehem, of noblest cities, none can once with thee compare; Thou alone the King from Heaven didst for us Incarnate bear.

Fairer than the sun at morning was the star that told His Birth, To the lands their God announcing, hid beneath a form of earth.

By its lambent beauty guided see the eastern kings appear; See them bend, their gifts to offer, gifts of incense, gold, and myrrh.

Solemn things of mystic meaning: Incense doth the God disclose; Gold a royal Child proclaimeth; Myrrh a future doom foreshows.

Holy Jesus in Thy brightness to the Gentile world displayed, With the Father and the Spirit, endless praise to Thee be paid. Amen.

A hymn composed for the Epiphany by Prudentius, who was a Christian poet born in 348 and died in about 413. (He has written that he wrote religious works to glorify God and atone for his sins.) This hymn was originally 52 stanzas long, but was shortened to the above in 1958 and introduced into the Breviary by Pope Pius V.



Men of St Francis Christmas Party

The Men of St Francis will be having their annual Christmas Party on Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at The Parkland Restaurant, 2702 Walbert Avenue, Allentown PA.

Time: 6:30 PM

Cost: \$25.00 Reservations: Contact Tom Fallon at 610-821-4947

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Phone: 610-435-8981 Email: altlsjv@ptd.net

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

St. John Vianney Regional School is looking for a few good people!

- We are seeking an Instructional Assistant for the Middle School Aquinas classroom. Under the supervision of the Aquinas teacher, the assistant would help monitor students, deliver scripted lessons, and assist students in studies.
- Substitute teachers needed. Work on a day by day basis as desired.

Please contact Dr. Kleintop in the Main School office to submit your application for any of these positions.

www.StJohnVianneySchool.org



Christmas Tableau

Thanks so much to our Parish Children, their parents, the volunteers, our director, Mrs. Kim Heintzelman, Musical Director, Peyton Stockdale and to our Parish Staff for the wonderful production of the 2019 Christmas Tableau. It was incredible – truly a beautiful and wonderful way to start our Christmas Celebration.

Please note we inadvertently left Anjelita Paul out of the Program. She was one of our wonderful Townspersons. Our Cast and Crew now look forward to 2020 Living Stations program!



Recently Baptized

We welcome to our parish family the following newly baptized child: **Camila Rose Almestica**, daughter of Francisco and Cristina (Vajda) Almestica. We pray that our Lord will be with her all of her days guiding her through life's journey.



Welcome back to PREP. After a wonderful Advent, PREP is back in session on Epiphany Sunday!

We look forward to beginning the 2020 PREP year!

In January, winter weather can cause havoc with our schedule. If PREP must close due to bad weather conditions – you will receive an email, a remind message and it is also displayed on Channel 69 WFMZ Storm Center Update.

It's a BUSY month ahead!

January 5th – Class

January 8th – Confirmation Interviews

January 12th – Class and Youth Mass - including the Rite of Enrollment for our Confirmation Candidates

January 12th – Confirmation Candidate and Sponsor Luncheon

January 19th – Class

January 26th – Class

January 28th – Sacramental PREP Class 6:15 to 7:15

January 30th – Confirmation Practice 6:30 – 8:30

February 1st – Confirmation Practice 10:30 – 12:30

Movie Club

Our January Movie is SOUPER!!!

The Resurrection of Garrett Stone

On Saturday, January 25th, doors will open after 4:30 PM Mass. Movie begins at 6:00 PM. Pot Luck SOUP Dinner... bring your favorite soup in a crock pot or pot (we will keep warm on the stove) and everyone will enjoy a yummy soup dinner. (You can drop off soups before Mass if you'd like!) Rolls/crackers and butter provided!!!



As always, free movie, free popcorn, free candy, free soda and free door prizes!

Movie Club... Always Free, Always Fun and Always Faithful



Please....No gum in church!

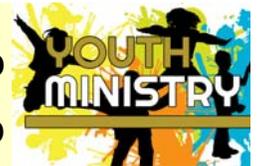
Please be respectful of the Holy Eucharist.

Youth Ministry Meetings

Sunday, January 5th from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

Sunday, January 19th from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

For information call or text Ms. Jenn: 484-433-0265 or email jreasinger@stfrancisallentown.org. Follow us on Instagram@sfyouthgroup. Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/StFrancisAssisiYouthGroup/>



Outreach Committee Meeting

The Outreach Committee will meet on Monday, January 6th at 6:30 PM in Heritage Hall. Please enter through the Cedar Street ramp. New members are welcomed!

Catechism Classes For Men

Every first and third Tuesday of the month (January 7th) at 7:00 PM, The Catholic Men of Good News are showing videos to deepen our knowledge of the faith in our Franciscan Center. For info call the Parish Office.

St. Francis Senior Citizens

On Tuesday, January 14th, the Senior Citizens will meet at 1:00 PM in Heritage Hall for a short meeting, bingo and cards, weather permitting. 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 the first and third Wednesdays of the month in Heritage Hall beginning with some social time at 6:30 PM. The next meeting will be Wednesday, January 15th. The group takes time to pray, reflect, learn, and to support one another in the faith. Women 18 and over are invited to participate. Guests are welcome so don't hesitate to ask your friends and neighbors to come along. Call the Parish Office if you need more information.



Online Giving

Our Online Giving system provides you the opportunity to give to our special collections in addition to regular offerings. You can set up regularly scheduled contributions that are withdrawn on the date you specify in the system. Even if you typically use your offering envelopes, you may wish to contribute online to a particular collection. It's easy and it's convenient!

Go to our parish website at www.stfrancisallentown.org for information to sign up.

Please support our advertisers on the back of the bulletin who make this publication possible.

"Joyfully Living, Gratefully Giving" Program

Thank you to all our parishioners who have completed and submitted your Commitment Card to the church. As a reminder, all commitments need to be submitted to the church as soon as possible. Please complete and submit your card to the church even if you are unable to make a change to your current level of giving.



LIVE WEBINAR: The Beginner's Guide to Defending Your Faith with Trent Horn an adjunct professor of apologetics at Holy Apostles College and staff apologist for Catholic Answers, where he specializes in teaching Catholics to graciously and persuasively engage those who disagree with them. In this webinar, Trent shows you that you don't need all the right answers—you just need the right questions and the right attitudes in order to share the Catholic Faith with anyone. This webinar will be live Wednesday, January 29, 7:00 PM. The event will not be recorded or rebroadcast. Go to allentowndioocese.org/webinars to register.

Rosary Holy Hours In The Adoration Chapel

Saturdays at 12:00 Noon and Sundays at 7:00 PM

For Our Church, Country, Families & Priests

The Chapel is open daily from 6 AM to 9 PM.

Questions: call Karin, 610-351-0835

Outreach Bus Trip to Mohegan Sun

The next bus trip for the Outreach Committee's monthly trip to Mohegan Sun is Tuesday, January 21, 2020. Bus leaves at 9:15 AM and returns by 5:00 PM. \$25 per person will get you \$25 for slot play plus \$5 toward lunch. There are still some seats for this trip; to sign up, call Pat at 610-515-5975 or the church at 610-433-6102.



Liturgical Ministers Schedule - Saturday and Sunday, January 11th & 12th

	<u>4:30 PM</u>	<u>8:30 AM</u>	<u>10:30 AM</u>
Lector	S. Wascavage	R. Granitz	PREP Students
Eucharistic Minister	A. & H. Moyer	T. Fallon, N. Lamparella	F. Lenahan, G. Rodriguez
Cantor	J. Seng-Austin	D. Lamparella	S. Kuczynski
Organist	C. Hageman	D. Badesso	D. Badesso
Altar Servers	S. Lurwick	C. Kocon	H. Folligan, E. Zobel
Sacristan	T. Bartman	J. Burgos	

Helpers of God's Precious Infants
 Saturday January 11, 2020 Helper's Pilgrimage: Please join the Helpers of God's Precious Infants at a Prayer Pilgrimage for the unborn and all those involved in abortion. The pilgrimage begins with Mass at 8:00 AM at Notre Dame Church of Bethlehem, 1861 Catasauqua Road, and continues with The Rosary at the abortion facility located at 31 South Commerce Way in the Bethlehem Industrial Park. The Mission: That through prayer, peaceful presence, and fasting we may be God's instruments in the salvation of souls, so that innocent lives will be saved from abortion. Be part of the call to bring God's everlasting, unconditional love to those involved in abortion that their hearts may be converted and receive God's gift of life with joy. Contact Info: <https://m.facebook.com/Helpers-of-Gods-Precious-Infants-of-Allentown>



RETRouvaille

A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their Marriages through Retrouvaille (Retro-VIE). If you know of anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass it on. Couples learn to build communication skills and rediscover intimacy. Retrouvaille provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program in your area begins on the weekend of February 21-23 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. Another weekend will be held in April. For more information, or to register for one of our weekends, visit our website at www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

Mass for Shut-ins

Sunday & daily Mass is available on EWTN (check your television guide for times). Sunday Mass is available via computer at "The Sunday Mass.org" anytime.

Safe Environment Update

Our new Local Safe Environment Coordinator, Camille Stockdale, is doing an audit of all of our parish volunteer records.

Each and every St. Francis volunteer MUST sign a Diocesan Code of Conduct Policy Acknowledgement Form; a Sexual Abuse Policy Acknowledgement Form and if you work with children, a Child Protective Services Law Acknowledgement Form.

You can read each of the policies on the Diocesan website, under Youth Protection and on the right hand side, drop down menu, <https://www.allentowndiocese.org/youth-protection>. The Child Protection Services Law form is in the Parish Office.

We thus need each and every volunteer at our parish to review the policies and sign an Acknowledgement Form stating you have done so. The forms can be picked up at the Parish Office beginning Sunday, December 15. We would ask that all volunteers complete this process no later than February 2, 2020.

Leaders of our Parish Organizations are encouraged to have their volunteer members review these policies and sign the forms at an organization meeting.

Diocesan Safe Environment Requirements are mandatory for all parish volunteers.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact Camille Stockdale at PREP @stfrancisallentown.org or 484-547-6270.



Children's Liturgy of the Word



Mark your calendar for Children's Liturgy for January. Our leaders are working hard to make it a great way for children to better understand the Word of God. January 19th and January 26th at 10:30 Mass

Benefits of Eucharistic Adoration

Here are a few:

1. Every Holy Hour we make so pleases the heart of Jesus that it is recorded in Heaven and retold for all eternity! (St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta)
2. The spiritual lives of our families are strengthened through our Holy Hour (St. John Paul II)
3. A Holy Hour of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament is so important to Jesus that a multitude of souls go to Heaven who otherwise would have gone to hell. (Jesus revelation to Blessed Dina Belanger)
4. Each time you approach the Blessed Sacrament, remember that Jesus has been waiting for twenty centuries for this personal visit from you. (St. Josemarie Escriva)
5. A Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration is a sharing in the work of Redemption. (Venerable Fulton Sheen)
6. It is impossible in human terms to exaggerate the importance of being in adoration before the Eucharist as often as for as long as our duties and state of life allow. (Fr. John Hardon)
7. Our Lord hears our prayers anywhere, but He has revealed to His servants that those who visit Him in the Eucharist will obtain a more abundant measure of grace. (St. Alphonsus Liguori)



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

DATABASE/CENSUS SECRETARY

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dgerancher@stfrancisallentown.org

DEACONS

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Ricardo Reyes 610-433-6102
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“FEED YOUR FAITH” GIFT CARD PROGRAM

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

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Monsignor Finelli 610-433-6102
vfinelli@stfrancisallentown.org

LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE

Donna Gerancher 610-433-6102 ext 15
dgerancher@stfrancisallentown.org

MEN OF ST. FRANCIS

Ray Johnson 610-533-7717

MUSIC MINISTRY

Sheena Kuczynski 610-433-6102
skuczynski@stfrancisallentown.org

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Fran Kryzan 610-434-0983

PARISH OFFICE

610-433-6102

PARISH FAX

610-434-6972

PARISH NURSES

Fran Kryzan, RN 610-434-0983

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Diane Colom 610-751-6079
sfaPPC18@gmail.com

PARISH SECRETARY

Stephanie Epler 610-433-6102 ext 10
sepler@stfrancisallentown.org

RCIA

Helen Moyer 610-439-0922

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (PREP)

Camille Stockdale 610-435-0364
PREP@stfrancisallentown.org

RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE

Karin Wahlstrom 610-351-0835

SANCTUARY MEMORIAL FUND

Anne Palmisano 610-433-6102

SENIOR CITIZENS GROUP

Madeline Klotz 610-395-7386

ST. JOHN VIANNEY REGIONAL SCHOOL

Dr. Emily Kleintop, Principal 610-435-8981
drkleintop@stjohnvianneyschool.org

WEBSITE

Ann Holaska 610-433-6102
aholaska@stfrancisallentown.org

WELCOMING/EVANGELIZATION COMMITTEE

Paula Rollins 484-241-1986

YOUTH MINISTRY

Jenn Reasinger 484-433-0265
jreasinger@stfrancisallentown.org

“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 1.5% to 10% profit to the parish. 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!*

A.C. Moore: \$25 *limited quantity*

Amazon.com: \$25, \$100

Applebees: \$10, \$25

Banana Republic: \$25

Barnes and Nobles: \$10, \$25

Bath and Body Works: \$10, \$25

Bed, Bath & Beyond: \$25

Buy Buy Baby: \$25

Bethlehem Gallery of Floors: *mention St. Francis*

Bonefish Grill: \$25

Boscov’s: \$25

Carrabbas: \$25

Christmas Tree Shops: \$25

Dunkin Donuts: \$10

Gap: \$25

Giant: \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50, \$100

Home Depot: \$25, \$100

Kohl’s: \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100

Longhorn Steakhouse: \$25

Lowe’s: \$25, \$100

Macy’s: \$25

Old Navy: \$25

Olive Garden: \$25

Outback Steakhouse: \$25

Panera Bread: \$10

Red Robin: \$25

Red Lobster: \$25

Redner’s Warehouse: \$20, \$25, \$50, \$100

Ruby Tuesday: \$25

Sam’s Club: \$25, \$100

Target: \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100

Texas Roadhouse: \$25

Visa: \$50, \$100

Wal-Mart: \$10, \$25, \$100

Wegman’s: \$25, \$50, \$100

Weis: \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50, \$100

Wendy’s: \$10

