

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 P. 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 6, 2019

*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

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 7th

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

No Mass

Tuesday, January 8th

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

8:00 AM Joseph Altieri

Wednesday, January 9th

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

8:00 AM John Kalfas

Thursday, January 10th

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

8:00 AM Helen Coachys

Friday, January 11th

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

8:00 AM Clara Szymzak

January 12th & 13th

The Baptism of the Lord

Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ti 2:11-14, 3:4-7; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

4:30 PM Raymond A. Sannie

8:30 AM Tony Jerant

People of St. Francis of Assisi Parish

10:30 AM David Silva

Saint Raymond of Penyafort

An Epiphany Prayer

O God,
Who by a star guided the wise men
to the worship of your Son,
we pray to you to lead to yourself
the wise and great of every land,
that unto you every knee may bow,
and every thought be brought into captivity
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Sanctuary Lamp Memorials

The Sanctuary Lamp Memorial for the week of

January 6th is:

*In Memory of Suzann Ridgeway
by Hazel Carter*

Recently Deceased



Please pray for the soul of parishioner Howard F. Bailer, who has recently died. Grant him eternal rest, O Lord, and may his family know your peace and comfort.

Holy Hour of Reparation

A Holy Hour of Reparation for sins committed against the Body of Christ and the healing of victims and all those affected, is being offered in the Adoration Chapel every Sunday at 7 PM. All are welcome.



Feed Your Faith Monthly Order



There are 40 different stores in stock every day, and once a month, hundreds of different stores and denominations are available through our monthly order program. To see the entire list of retailers, go to www.glscrip.com and click Home Page. The next monthly order will be placed on **Monday, January 7th**. To order, call the Parish Office at 610-433-6102.



Rest in Peace, Sister Martina

We recently received word that Sister Martina Revak, who lived at St. Ann's in Emmaus, but was assigned here at St. Francis for a number of years eventually retiring in 2013, has passed away. She went to be with Our Lord on December 26, 2018. Many of you will remember Sister Martina from her work with funeral planning, and her ministry to the sick and homebound. In the past five years or so, Sister Martina was living at Emmanuel Monastery in Joppa, Maryland. Please pray for Sister Martina's soul, that God will grant her eternal rest and let perpetual light shine upon her.

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bulletin who make this publication possible.*



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www.StJohnVianneySchool.org



Mercy is seeking to employ both full and part-time Direct Service Workers for our TLC/Over 21 Adult Habilitation Program.

This person will assist with the day-to-day operation of the Adult Habilitation Program in an efficient manner that supports the mission of Mercy School for Special Learning.

There are 2 full time positions with a maximum of 32.5 hours weeks year-round with benefits as well as a part time position offering 20 - 25 hours per week year-round.

This person will assist the Program Specialist and Director with implementation of annual goals developed for adults with multiple disabilities. Performs such routine tasks as feeding, lifting and toileting on a daily basis. Follows program policies in maintaining order and safety in the program room, hallways, all-purpose room and at events both on and off program premises. Performs other duties as assigned.

The following clearances are required: Criminal History Check, Child Abuse Clearance, FBI Clearance and Mandated Reporter Certificate

Interested candidates should contact Beth Grys, Principal, at 610-797-8242 or bgrys@mercyschool.org. You may also mail your resume to:

Mercy School For Special Learning
830 S. Woodward St.
Allentown, PA 18103

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI NIGHT at COCA-COLA PARK



Mark your calendar for Wednesday, June 5th, 2019 to see Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs Baseball, and enjoy the St Francis of Assisi Choir singing the National Anthem.

PREP Welcomes 2019 with Youth Mass and Rite of Enrollment



On January 6th, our PREP students return to the classroom for their second semester of religion classes.

Our 4th graders are taking over telling us about Church History at Assembly. We continue to pray together each week before beginning our studies. Our classes are all beginning or continuing to work on Unit 2. Each class finishes 3 units per PREP year. We will also enjoy Youth Mass as a group on January 6th. It's a great day to be a part of PREP!

Confirmation



Our 13 Confirmation Candidates will also participate in the Rite of Enrollment at the January 6th 10:30 Mass, followed by a Candidate/Sponsor Luncheon. Confirmation is scheduled for February 5th at St. Paul's at 4:30 PM. We congratulate and celebrate: Alexa, Aidan, Janay, Fatima, Dylan, Tyler, Carolina, Daisy, Hailey, Joselin, Isabel, Riley and Megan as they make these final steps to becoming fully initiated into the Catholic Faith. Come Holy Spirit, Come!

Youth Group

January Schedule

Friday, January 11th: 6:30 - 9 PM MOVIE NIGHT

Sunday, January 27th: 4 - 5:30 PM Regular Meeting

For more info contact Ms. Jenn @ 484-433-0265 or msjennchurch@yahoo.com



St. Francis Movie Club



We welcome you to the First Movie of 2019, Paul Apostle of Christ., on Sunday, January 20th at 3:30 PM (doors open at 3:00).

This very true-to-life and true-to-Scripture presentation should leave every Christian examining the true depth of their own faith, the grace of God and the reality of persecution of the Church through 20 centuries. This is a historical movie to encourage and challenge millions!



FREE and OPEN to ALL .. drinks, popcorn, door prizes - ALL FREE!!!!

Proper Church Etiquette

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

Why do we celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany of our Lord?



Although in some countries it is a holyday of obligation, the Solemnity of the Epiphany is not in the United States. So why do we continue to celebrate on a Sunday in the Christmas season? Well, it is an important piece in the whole manifestation of Christ to us as our Savior. Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI called it “the celebration of the birth of Christ as the dawning of the new light, the true sun, of history” in his book *The Spirit of the Liturgy*.

Coming from the Greek verb ‘*epiphainen*’ meaning “to shine upon,” the solemnity of the Epiphany “celebrates the adoration of Jesus by the wise men (magi) from the East.” (CCC #528) The magi represent the neighboring pagan religions who, in coming to Jerusalem to pay homage, show that all people can discover Jesus, worship Him as our Savior, and can receive that Messianic promise we hear in the Old Testament if they choose it. “The Epiphany shows that the full number of the nations now takes its place in the family of the patriarchs, and acquires *Israelitica dignitas* (are made worthy of the heritage of Israel.)” (CCC #528) These Magi, who are believed to be “custodians of religious and philosophical knowledge” (Benedict XVI, *Jesus of Nazareth*) came specifically to see this King, as it was believed at the time that the ruler of the world would arrive from Judah. Alas, they went to Herod first, assuming that such a King would come into the world at the king’s palace in Israel’s royal city, which of course played into Herod’s known paranoia of losing his throne. Hence, the magi, originally with orders from Herod to kill this newborn king, decide to save Him as they are completely changed when they visit Him in that lowly stable.

We have also heard about those 3 gifts that probably, with the exception of the gold, seem like odd gifts for a child King. Yet, they, too, have significance:

- Gold symbolizes wealth and power, identifying the recipient as a king
- Frankincense is crystalized sap from a specific tree used in incense and is symbolic of prayer
- Myrrh is sap from another tree used in healing and embalming, and it foreshadowed Christ’s necessary sacrifice on the Cross.

The Epiphany is the first of three of these aforementioned manifestations where we celebrate the ways Christ has made His Divinity known to us. The other two are His Baptism, which we celebrate the following Sunday, and the miracle at the Wedding of Cana. So, let us come & adore Him, our Savior and our Lord.

Outreach Bus Trip to Mohegan Sun

Our next trip will be on Tuesday, January 15th, bus leaves at 9:15 AM and returns by 5:00 PM. \$25 per person. To sign up for the January 15th trip, call Pat at 610-515-5975 or the church at 610-433-6102.



Men of St Francis Christmas Party

The Men of St Francis will be having their annual Christmas Party on Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at The Parkland Restaurant, 2702 Walbert Avenue, Allentown PA.

Time: 6:30 PM .

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

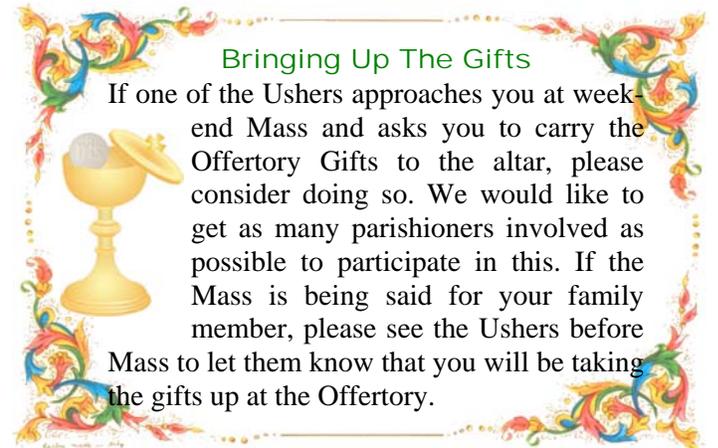


St. Francis Senior Citizens

On Tuesday, January 8th, the Senior Citizens will meet at 1:00 PM for a short meeting, bingo and cards, weather permitting. For info, call Madeline Klotz at 610-395-7386.

Bringing Up The Gifts

If one of the Ushers approaches you at weekend Mass and asks you to carry the Offertory Gifts to the altar, please consider doing so. We would like to get as many parishioners involved as possible to participate in this. If the Mass is being said for your family member, please see the Ushers before Mass to let them know that you will be taking the gifts up at the Offertory.



Outreach Committee Meeting

The Outreach Committee will meet on Monday, January 7th at 6:30 PM in Heritage Hall. Please enter through the Cedar Street ramp. New members are welcomed!

Meals Needed

Our Outreach Committee is looking for people to sign up to prepare meals. The program would be used for emergency needs - families of sudden hospitalization, someone having chemo; someone coming home with new baby - etc., etc.

If we can get a large roster of people - the need to supply a meal would be minimal.

Meals would be for 4 people - unless otherwise noted. Please call the Parish Office if you are able to prepare a meal. Meals will be dropped off at the Parish Office.



Large Flowerheads Tickets

It's time to get your Large Flowerhead tickets!
On Saturday, March 30th, the Large Flowerheads are back to entertain you, so get your tickets NOW in the Parish Office before they sell out. Tickets are \$10 each. Food and drink will be available for purchase.

SAVE THE DATE

Next year's festival will be

June 28-30, 2019



Adoration Chapel

You are invited to come to our Holy Hours of Reparation on Saturdays at Noon or Sunday evenings from 7 to 8 PM. We pray for our world leaders, church leaders, clergy, pastors, families, the sick and suffering, the dying. We need people to pray! This is a reminder for people to come to the Adoration Chapel. The Chapel is open daily from 6 AM to 9 PM for private prayer. Jesus is waiting!

Scouts: SAVE THE DATE!

The 2019 Catholic Scout Activity Weekend will be held at Camp Trexler - Settlers April 26-28, 2019 - so mark your calendars!

We'd love to have you join us for a FUN-Filled weekend that includes all meals and a Saturday Vigil Mass!

You don't have to be working on a religious emblem to join us - all Catholic Scouts are welcome. Visit us at www.adccos.org/bsr.htm for more info.



Rachel's Vineyard Retreat™

An intimate spiritual journey for anyone seeking healing after abortion, March 22-24, 2019, in a safe, supportive, non-judgmental environment, you can focus on this painful time in your life and enter into the process of healing. Through scripture readings, guided meditations, and activities flowing from the meditations you can experience God's compassion and forgiveness.

For *registration information contact:

Sr. Meg Cole, 1-866-3 RACHEL (Toll Free), 610-332-0442 Ext. 2019, projectrachel@allentowndioocese.org

* Deadline for Registration is March 14th.

For information about the retreat experience visit the national website: www.rachelsvineyard.org



It is possible that on entering this church, you may hear the Call of God. On the other hand, it is not likely that he will contact you by phone. If you would like to talk to God, come in, choose a quiet place, and talk to him.

Thank you for turning off your phone.

Designer Handbag Bingo is back!



Designer Handbag Bingo will be held on Sunday, March 31, 2019. Tickets are now available for purchase in the Parish Office for \$20 each.

Bulletin Board

Please take time to check our bulletin board in the stairwell into the vestibule from the parking lot. There are many events posted for local parishes that we do not always have room to print in the bulletin.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

A New Year's Resolution! Make 2018 the year you resolve to improve your marriage! Attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend and learn how.

For information call 1-732-904-9636 or visit www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org.

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.



The Master Craftsman

You are invited to a special event "The Master Craftsman: God's Amazing Plan for Teens (and their Parents)" co-sponsored by the Office of Youth, Young Adult and Family Ministry and St. Thomas More Roman Catholic Church. Join us for a faith-filled evening with nationally-recognized speaker Scott Anthony, as he helps us see the Truth of God's guiding hand in our lives. We encourage teens in grades 9-12 and their parents to attend! After this evening, you and your youth will look toward the future with a newfound sense of hope.

The event will take place this Friday, January 11, 2019 at 7:00 PM, at St. Thomas More Church Family Center (1040 Flexer Ave, Allentown, PA 18103). This event is free of charge. Light refreshments will be provided.

To register for this event, please visit www.allentowndioocese.org/craftsman. For questions call (610) 289-8900, ext. 2021 or email Francesca Frias at Ffrias@allentowndioocese.org.

PARISH PHONE DIRECTORY

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ryoung@stfrancisallentown.org

"FEED YOUR FAITH" GIFT CARD PROGRAM

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

GATHERED IN GRACE (WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP)

Maria LaMonica 484-347-7440
me.45@live.com

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

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

LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE

Amelia Gamble 610-433-6102 ext 31
agamble@stfrancisallentown.org

MEN OF ST. FRANCIS

John Philapavage 610-434-1580

MUSIC MINISTRY

Amelia Gamble 610-433-6102 ext 31
agamble@stfrancisallentown.org

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

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PARISH OFFICE 610-433-6102

PARISH FAX 610-434-6972

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SANCTUARY MEMORIAL FUND

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SENIOR CITIZENS GROUP

Madeline Klotz 610-395-7386

ST. JOHN VIANNEY REGIONAL SCHOOL

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

YOUTH MINISTRY

Jenn Reasinger 484-433-0265
msjennchurch@yahoo.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 1.5% 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

Amazon.com: \$25 (NEW)

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

Nikki H Nail & Hair Salon \$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

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

Wegman's: \$25, \$50, \$100

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

Wendy's: \$10

