

Saint Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church

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

www.stfrancisallentown.org

Facebook and Instagram: @stfrancisallentown

Pastor

Reverend Monsignor Victor F. Finelli, V.J., J.C.L.

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Robert Young
Deacon Ricardo Reyes



Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 PM

Sunday: 10:30 AM

Daily: see Mass Schedule

Holy Day: (Vigil 7:00 PM) 8:00 AM & 12:05 PM



Sacrament of Reconciliation

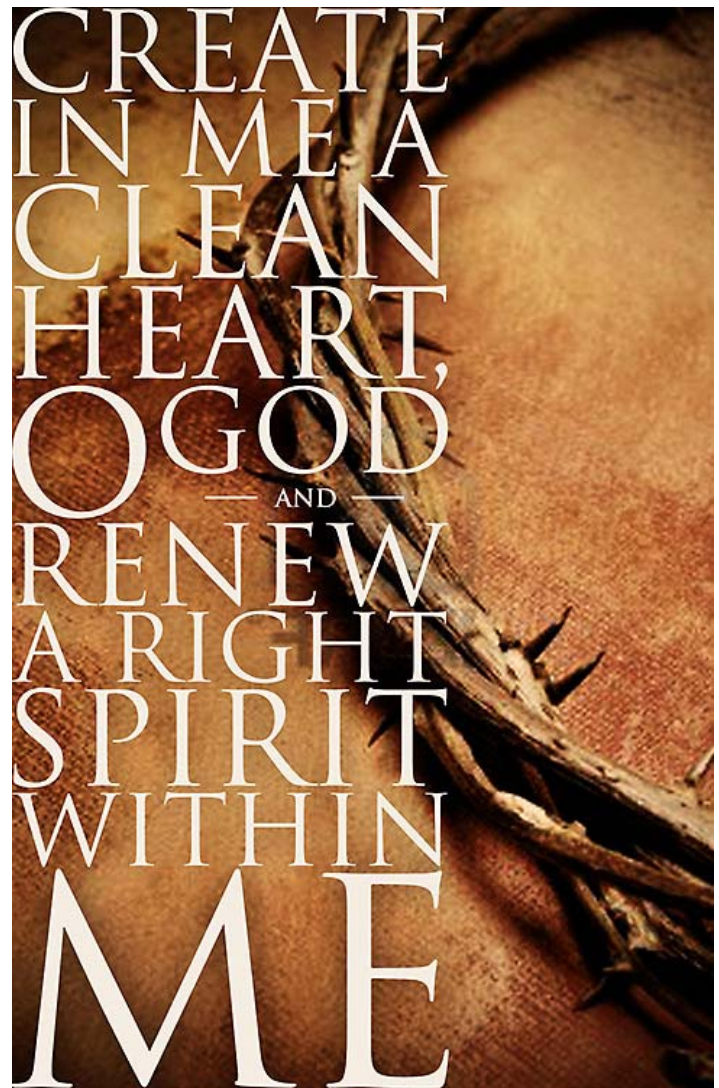
Saturday: 3:15-4:00 PM

Anytime by appointment



Adoration Chapel

Our Adoration Chapel is temporarily closed due to COVID19



February 21, 2021
First Sunday
of Lent

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.

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, Mr. Brian Mansfield (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.

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.

Mass Schedule

Monday, February 22nd

1 Pt 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19

No Mass

The Chair of Saint Peter
the Apostle

Tuesday, February 23rd

Is 55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15

8:00 AM Virginia Speth (Public Mass)

Saint Polycarp

Wednesday, February 24th

Jon 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32

8:00 AM Nancy Lewullis & son Joseph (Public Mass)

Thursday, February 25th

Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Mt 7:7-12

8:00 AM Juanita Onasi (Public Mass)

Friday, February 26th

Ez 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26

8:00 AM Betty Beuhrle (Private Mass)

February 27th & 28th
Second Sunday of Lent

Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10

4:30 PM Bill Franko

People of St. Francis of Assisi Parish

10:30 AM Robert Racek, Jr.

Victor F. Finelli

Welcome Back to Mass

The Church main door will open thirty minutes before the Mass. Please observe social distancing and wear a mask at all times. Please review our "Welcome Back to Mass" video on our website with all other regulations. We will continue to stream the Sunday 10:30 AM Mass live on Facebook for those who are not yet comfortable with the idea of returning to public Mass. Thank you and welcome back to Mass!



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 February 21, 2021 is

In Memory of Virginia Speth
by: Leo Speth

Sanctuary Memorial Fund

We acknowledge these contributions in memory of:

Helen R. Grieff

by: Jay H. Gilbert & Family, Frank Jacobs, Tim & Karen

Robert J. Fix

by: Mary J. Fix, Colleen O'Hare

Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord



Recently Deceased

Please pray for the soul of parishioner John Philips who recently passed away. Grant him eternal rest, O Lord, and may his family know your peace and comfort.



Flocknote

Don't forget to text STFRAN to 84576 on your smartphone to get signed up with Flocknote!

(If you don't have a smartphone, you can visit our website and look for the link that will allow you to sign up from there.)



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.

Sight and Sound Bus Trip has been rescheduled!

St. Francis of Assisi Church will travel to Sight & Sound's "Queen Esther" on **Tuesday, October 26, 2021**. \$113 per person includes travel, lunch at Shady Maple, and a driver tip. We'll depart church at 10:00 AM, arrive at Shady Maple, then on to Sight & Sound for the 3:00 PM show, and leave for home at 7:00 PM following the show. Call Stephanie at the Parish Office, 610-433-6102 to sign up or for more information.

New date: October 26, 2021.

We have only 12 openings left, so please call to reserve your seats as soon as possible!



Unfortunately, we have had to permanently cancel the Large Flowerheads dance for 2021. If you had purchased tickets, please bring the tickets to the Parish Office in person beginning Friday, February 26th, and you will be reimbursed in cash for each ticket that you purchased. For more information, contact Stephanie at the Parish Office, 610-433-6102.

Stations of the Cross

Join us Fridays in Lent for the Stations of the Cross - at 11:30 AM or 7 PM in the church. We encourage everyone to participate in this holy tradition.

We may eliminate one of these times in the coming week based on which time is better attended.

"Behold, O Kind and most sweet Jesus, before Thy face I humbly kneel..."
(from the Prayer before the Crucifix)



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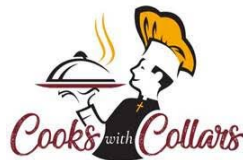
Phone: 610-435-8981 Email: altlsjv@ptd.net

Call us today to schedule a tour at your convenience!

SJVRs: Educating a child's character, mind and spirit!

COOKS WITH COLLARS

Thanks to all the parishioners and friends of St. Francis of Assisi who voted and helped us to raise \$2,120 for our parish. We appreciate your support in this fun and easy fundraiser!



Youth Ministry

The Youth Ministry will be meeting via Zoom on Sunday, February 21st at 7 PM. Please contact Ms. Jenn for more info at

jreasinger@stfrancisallentown.org.

PREP

Msgr. Finelli and Mrs. Stockdale have made the decision to continue



ZOOMING for the remainder of the PREP year. Classes will continue via ZOOM in February, March and April.

We would like to thank all of our PREP families for being so dedicated to the program, attending classes, doing class and home work, completing projects and most importantly, deepening their children's faith! Keep up the great work!



40 Days for Life

The 40 Days for Life Prayer Campaign started on Ash Wednesday and will run through March 28th at the Allentown Planned Parenthood (abortion facility), 29 N. 9th Street, Allentown. Join us, Monday through Saturday 7 AM - 6 PM. **When prayer volunteers are praying the no show rate for abortions can jump at high as 75%! ** For more information, or to be paired with a prayer partner, call Maryanne at 610-570-2347.

Liturgical Ministers Schedule

Saturday and Sunday, February 27th & 28th

4:30 PM

10:30 AM

Lector

J. Fittipaldi

G. Rodriguez

Organist

D. Badesso

D. Badesso

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

Congratulations to these parishioners of our Parish who were confirmed by Bishop Alfred E. Schlert on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at our Parish:

Brandon **James** Bird

Olivia Taylor **Elizabeth** Fonzone

Theodore Francis **Patrick** Garvin

Marissa Reagan **Michael** Gaudiuso

Rhiannon Alice **Marguerite** Haas

Ava Rose **Devota** Kozak



Alexandra Elizabeth **Teresa** LLanos

Jessica Martha **Marie** LLanos

Ronald **Antonio** Palacio

Daniela **Valentine** Parra

Megan **Vitus** Reyes

Sage Lee **Ann** Snyder

Jameson Robert **Sebastian** Zobel

We pray that, as they are sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit, they will continue to be true witnesses to the Catholic faith.

"Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love."



First Communion

First Communion will be held at the 10:30 AM Mass on April 25, 2021.

Our 15 young men and women receiving Jesus for the first time in the Eucharist will be seated together in the front of the church. Their families will also be joining us to witness the blessed event. As a result, church will be fuller than a normal 10:30 Mass. If this concerns you, you may want to attend 4:30 PM Saturday Mass instead that week.

St. Francis Retreat House
3918 Chipman Road, Easton PA 28045



Upcoming Monday Mini Retreats
March 29th: Patricia Kane, M.Ed: "From Control to Freedom in God"

April 26th: Sr. Kathy Duffy, SSJ, PhD: "Teilhard's Mystical Path"

To register call 610-258-3053 x10, or visit the SFRH Website: www.stfrancisretreathouse.org. Suggested donations: Onsite" \$30 and Virtual: \$15.

Designer Handbag Bingo

New Date: Sunday,
October 24, 2021

Doors open at 12:00
Games begin at 12:30

**New date: October 24, 2021.
Hold your tickets for admission on that date.**

Tickets are available to purchase at the Parish Office. One bring any outside food/drink. Spread the word and help us advertise. If you already purchased a ticket in 2020, that ticket is still valid. **(Tickets will be \$25 at the door)**
Questions? Contact the Parish Office at 610-433-6102.



Saint Elizabeth SOUP SALE!

Warm your tummies with delicious home-made soup sold in quarts to start off the new year! You can choose from these soup favorites: Chicken Corn Chowder, Chicken Noodle, Beef Barley & Vegetable Soup! Each quart of soup is only \$10.00 and holds only the freshest ingredients. Payment is due with orders by Wednesday, February 24th. Pick-up will be after the weekend Masses on February 27th & 28th in the parish hall. Orders can be dropped off at the parish or school offices, in the collection basket or mailed to SOUP - St. Elizabeth's, 618 Fullerton Ave., Whitehall, PA 18052. Questions call Joan at: 610-349-7791. Thank you for your support!

De Sales University Accounting Students to Provide Free Tax Preparation Assistance

Junior and senior accounting students from DeSales University will provide tax preparation assistance free of charge to senior citizens, those with incomes below \$54,000, people with disabilities, students, military and those who speak English as a second language. The DeSales University VITA program will begin Monday, February 15th through Friday, March 26th. The program is part of the United States Internal Revenue Service's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.

This marks the twentieth consecutive year that DeSales students have participated in the program. Since it was first offered, DeSales students have completed more than 5,100 tax returns for more than 2,400 Lehigh Valley taxpayers.

To schedule a VITA appointment, individuals can call (610) 282-1100, ext. 1868. A DeSales student will return the phone call and provide assistance accordingly. Individuals needing assistance should bring all printed tax information and all documents pertaining to federal, state and local taxes with them to their appointment. All in-person appointments will be conducted with all COVID-related precautions, and visitors to the DeSales campus are required to be masked.

The program is sponsored by the IRS and supervised by Dr. Christopher R. Coccozza, division head of DeSales University's Division of Business and professor of business. Coccozza has served as VITA coordinator at DeSales since the program was initiated at DeSales in 2001. Coccozza holds a bachelor's in accounting and law degree from Fordham University and a master's of law from New York University.



First Penance

The Sacrament of First Penance will be celebrated on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 6:30 PM.

Fourteen children from our parish will receive absolution through Reconciliation for the very first time! Please join us in praying for these children on this very special occasion.

Practice for all Students is Sunday,

February 21, 2021 at 6:00 PM - this also includes our First Communion Meeting. This is MANDATORY for all students receiving these Sacraments this year!

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

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

DEACONS

Robert Young 610-433-6102
ryoung@stfrancisallentown.org

Ricardo Reyes 610-433-6102
rreyes@stfrancisallentown.org

"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

Brian Mansfield, Principal 610-435-8981
mrmansfield@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% 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%): \$25, \$100

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

Banana Republic (14%): \$25

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

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

Bed, Bath & Beyond (7%): \$25

Buy Buy Baby (7%): \$25

Bethlehem Gallery of Floors: mention St. Francis

Bonefish Grill (8%): \$25

Boscov's (8%): \$25

Carrabbas (8%): \$25

Christmas Tree Shop (7%): \$25

Dunkin Donuts (3%): \$10

Gap (14%): \$25

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

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

Kohl's (5%): \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100

Longhorn Steakhouse (8%): \$25

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

Macy's (10%): \$25

Old Navy (14%): \$25

Olive Garden (8%): \$25

Outback Steakhouse (8%): \$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 (7%): \$10

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

Texas Roadhouse (8%): \$25

Visa (1.25%): \$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

Wendy's (6.5%): \$10





Easter Egg Sale



This year Easter is Sunday, April 4th. Why not celebrate the day with some great **HOMEMADE** Easter eggs in a variety of flavors. Choose from: Peanut Butter, Coconut Cream, Butter Cream, or Peanut Rolled Eggs (either with butter cream or peanut butter centers). All varieties come in milk or dark chocolate and will be sold for only \$9.00 or \$10.00 per 1/2 pound or \$17.00 or \$19.00 per pound. Reasonably priced for homemade candy. All these wonderful confections will be made by our volunteers right here at Saint Francis. This will surely be a big and popular fundraiser because who doesn't love a homemade Easter egg to celebrate the season? **Make sure you get your order in early in case we have to close sales due to just too many orders that we wouldn't be able to fulfill.**



Orders are due no later than Sunday, March 14th with pick up on Palm Sunday Weekend: March 27th (from 3:30 to 5:30 PM) and March 28th (from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM). For those with allergies, the peanut butter eggs will be made separately for no cross-contamination. Checks made payable to: Saint Francis

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Homemade Easter Egg Sale
ORDER FORM



Name: _____ Phone: _____

	Half Pound	Pound	
Peanut Butter Cream Eggs:	milk chocolate: _____ @ \$9	_____ @ \$17	= _____
	dark chocolate: _____ @ \$9	_____ @ \$17	= _____
Coconut Cream Eggs:	milk chocolate: _____ @ \$9	_____ @ \$17	= _____
	dark chocolate: _____ @ \$9	_____ @ \$17	= _____
Butter Cream Eggs:	milk chocolate: _____ @ \$9	_____ @ \$17	= _____
	dark chocolate: _____ @ \$9	_____ @ \$17	= _____
Peanut Rolled Eggs w/ Peanut Butter Centers:	milk chocolate: _____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$19	= _____
	dark chocolate: _____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$19	= _____
Peanut Rolled Eggs w/ Butter Cream Centers:	milk chocolate: _____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$19	= _____
	dark chocolate: _____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$19	= _____

Orders due no later than March 14th **TOTAL ENCLOSED = \$ _____**