

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.



February 23 2020

*Seventh Sunday
in Ordinary Time*

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, February 24th

Jan 3:13-18; Mk 9:14-29

No Mass

Tuesday, February 25th

Jan 4:1-10; Mk 9:30-37

8:00 AM Jean Markley

Wednesday, February 26th

Jl 2:12-18; 2 Cor 5:20--6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

8:00 AM Sharon Betz

12:05 PM Service of the Word and Distribution of Ashes

7:00 PM Mary Chesnavage

Thursday, February 27th

Dt 30:15-20; Lk 9:22-25

8:00 AM Giuseppe & Domenica Giletto

Friday, February 28th

Is 58:1-9a; Mt 9:14-15

8:00 AM Trudy McGonigle

February 29th & March 1st

First Sunday of Lent

Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Rom 5:12-19; Mt 4:1-11

4:30 PM Sunny Gergel

People of St. Francis of Assisi Parish

8:30 AM Sanctuary Memorial Fund Members

10:30 AM Dr. Eugene Drauch



Sanctuary Lamp Memorials
The Sanctuary Lamp Memorial for the week of
February 23, 2020 is:

***In Memory of Virginia Speth
By Husband and Daughter***

Recently Deceased

Please pray for the souls of parishioners Quinto Toigo, John C. Cser, Sr. and James D. Rondish, Jr., (son of parishioner James Rondish), who recently passed away. Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and may their families know your peace and comfort.



Welcoming/Evangelization Committee

The Welcoming and Evangelization Committee will be having hospitality after all Masses this weekend that will include light refreshments, in the gathering space at the back of the church. Stop by and say hello!



THE LARGE FLOWERHEADS

Saturday, March 14, 2020

7 - 10 PM in the Church Hall
Doors open at 6 PM

Tickets are available for purchase now for only \$14 each. Food and drink will be available for purchase at the event. No outside food or drink items permitted. **A seating chart will be completed for the event as we have in the past. If there is a group that you know you are sitting with, please make sure we know that when you purchase your tickets.**

Sanctuary Memorial Fund

We acknowledge these contributions in memory of:

Quinto L. Tiogo

by: Kevin & Elaine Rutz & Family, Tom & Judy Rutz, Marie Volack, Tim & Debbie Holt, Doug, Kim, Alex & James Evans, Gregg & Kathryn Moore, Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Bakis, Marilyn & Rocky Miller

Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord

Finding God in Life's Challenges
This year celebrates the **31st Anniversary** of the Men's group Day of Recollection!

The **MEN OF ST. FRANCIS Day of Recollection** is March 7th. It begins at 8 AM and ends with closing Benediction at 1:15 PM. Our guest speaker is Kevin Damitz, Director of Religious Education at St. Thomas More. The topic is "The Making of a Catholic Bread Winner".

The day is directed by Deacon Bob and includes Morning Prayer, Mass and fellowship. Continental breakfast and full lunch is included. Those wishing to car pool can meet in the church lot at 7:30 AM. Please call Tom Fallon to register at 610-821-4947.

This invitation is open to all men in the parish. The cost is \$25.00. **INVITE A FRIEND, he'll be glad you did.**

Designer Handbag Bingo

Sunday, March 15, 2020

Doors open at 12:00 PM
Games begin at 1:00 PM

Tickets are now available for only \$20 each in the Parish Office! Food and drink will be available to purchase at the event, and we ask that no one bring any outside food/drink items in with you. Spread the word and help us advertise!

Questions? Contact the Parish Office at 610-433-6102.
Donations of items & gift cards are needed for raffle prizes. They can be dropped off at the Parish Office before March 1, 2020.

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

St. John Vianney REGIONAL SCHOOL

- Preschool Programs, Full Day
- Kindergarten through 8th Grade
- Safe Environment, Faith-Filled Curriculum
- Outstanding Academics
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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



Our Weekly Stewardship

Weekend of February 15th & 16th

| | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| # of envelopes mailed: | 722 |
| # of envelopes received: | 207 |
| % of envelopes used: | 29% |
| Total of First Collection | \$7,096.00 |
| Total of Second Collection | \$1,435.00 |

Thank you for your continued financial support through our "Joyfully Living, Gratefully Giving" campaign. Your donation is so greatly appreciated.

Men of St. Francis' Monthly Breakfast

Next Sunday, March 1st, 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.



Old Palm Collection

Once again this year, we will be collecting your old palm to burn them for ashes. The basket is located outside the ramp doors, just inside the main entrance.



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

PREP

After enjoying a mid-winter break last week, our students are back to PREP. First Penance was celebrated this past week! We congratulate the 17 students who received. The same students, plus a few more will now begin to prepare for First Communion, which will be held on April 26th. Our other students continue to work on their age level curriculum so they can complete Unit 3 by the end of March! Time flies at PREP because we learn so much, love so much and grow so much closer to Jesus!

- March 1st - Class
- March 8th - Class
- March 15th - Class
- March 22nd - Class
- March 29th - Class and Youth Mass!



Movie Club

March's Movie Club Feature: Overcomer

Date - Sunday, March 22nd
Doors open at 3:00 - Movie Begins at 3:30

Looking ahead - April's Film is Love and Mercy: Faustina. May film is being selected and July is Christmas Jars!



In theatres soon - I Still Believe - looks awesome!



Join our Choir!

Like to sing? Do you sing from your heart? Wanna pray 2x? Well then you need to join our Choir! Our choir is open to singers of all varieties --

whether you should be on "The Voice" or you sing best in the car -- All of our parishioners are welcome! Practices are only one hour, every Thursday from 6:30 to 7:30 PM. Even if you can't come every week, come as often as you are able. We would love to see you this Thursday - February 27th!

New members who attended their first practice, "Loved it", "Had a Great time" and were so moved by the spirit. They were welcomed by the choir members and felt a part of our church music "family" after just one practice! For questions - contact our Director of Music - Sheena Kuczynski - 610 433 6102



Youth Ministry Meetings

Sunday, March 1st - Regular meeting from 11:30 AM to 1 PM

Sunday, March 15th - Regular Meeting - 11:30 AM to 1 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/>



Thanks to everyone who has read the Diocesan Code of Conduct and Sexual Abuse Policies and signed the acknowledgement forms. If you volunteer in the parish - please do so soon! The parish office has copies of the forms and policies if you need them!



Sight and Sound Bus Trip

St. Francis of Assisi Church will travel to Sight & Sound's new show, "Queen Esther" on Wednesday, March 25, 2020. \$113 per person includes transportation, lunch at Shady Maple, show, and bus driver tip. We'll depart church at 10:00 AM for Shady Maple, then on to Sight and Sound Theatre for the 3:00 PM show, and leave for home immediately following the show.

There are still a few openings. Payment is due by March 1st. Call Stephanie at the Parish Office, 610-433-6102 to sign up or for more information.

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, March 2nd**. To order, call the Parish Office at 610-433-6102.



40 Days for Life

The 40 Days for Life Prayer Campaign will start on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 26th and run through April 5th 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 as high as 75%!**** For more information, or to be paired with a prayer partner, call Maryanne at 610-570-2347.



Lenten Film Study

Mark your calendars for our Lenten Film Study "No Greater Love – A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion"

Monday nights during Lent from 6:30 to 7:30 PM
March 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th

We will watch a 1/2 hour video and then have a discussion. Msgr. Finelli will be leading our FIRST evening on March 2nd. The theme is: The Prayer of the Agony. Further themes: Are You the Christ?; The Trial Before Pilate; The Death of the Messiah; The Seven Last Words. We hope you can join us. This study is FREE, open to the public and you may come to all of the evenings, or just one or two. There is no pre-work required (although we will give you "read ahead" information each week). If you wish to purchase any materials in advance of the studies, visit Ascension Press online and look for No Greater Love.

Living Stations 2020 is underway



Right now, we are practicing on Saturday mornings only from 9:00 to 10:00 AM.

Saturday practices continue February 29th, March 7th, March 14th. On March 18th we begin Wednesday practices as well.

We welcome our younger cast members on March 25th! (Any parish child(ren) younger than 3rd grade who would like to be "crowd" members! are welcome to join us) Questions - contact Kim Heintzelman at 610 597-0950. Our parishioners will want to join us for our performances on Palm Sunday at 3:00 PM and Good Friday at 7:00 PM.

Outreach Committee Meeting

The Outreach Committee will meet on Monday, March 2nd at 6:30 PM in Heritage Hall. Please enter through the Cedar Street ramp. New members are welcomed!

Liturgical Ministers Schedule - Saturday and Sunday, February 29th & March 1st

| | <u>4:30 PM</u> | <u>8:30 AM</u> | <u>10:30 AM</u> |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Lector | H. Moyer | R. Granitz | J. Reasinger |
| Eucharistic Minister | A. Moyer, L. Stofko | J. & P. Philapavage | G. Rodriguez, J. Young |
| Cantor | L. Hannis | M. Issermoyer | S. Kuczynski |
| Organist | C. Hageman | J. DeMatto | D. Badesso |
| Altar Servers | D. Martrich | A. Beck | D. Koury |
| Sacristan | N. Stofko | T. Bartman | |
| Children's Liturgy of the Word | | | M. Heller, M. Perez |

OUR LENTEN OBLIGATION

Church law considers every Friday and the season of Lent as penitential days and times. The practice of penance is a part of our faith and Christian life. When we do penance, we imitate Jesus, who Himself recommended it as necessary to His followers, and gave them the example of His prayer and fasting.



The Lenten obligation, as determined for Catholics in the United States by our bishops, requires that fasting be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. The law of abstinence is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent.

Who must fast? All Catholics who are between the ages of 18 and 59. The obligation ceases when one begins his or her 60th year on his or her 59th birthday.

Who must abstain? All Catholics who are 14 years of age or older.

What does fasting mean? The observance of fasting means that those obliged may have only one full meal on the day of fast. Two lighter meals, which should not equal to another full meal), may be taken to maintain strength according to one's needs.

What does abstinence mean? The law of abstinence forbids the eating of meat, including poultry. Voluntary abstinence refers to refraining from lawful pleasures in a spirit of penance.

Can anyone be dispensed or excused from fasting and/or abstinence? Individuals with just cause may be dispensed by their pastor or by a priest with the faculty to do so. In our Diocese, all priests may dispense individuals who are committed to their pastoral care. Those who are ill, or have a similar serious reason, are excused from the observance of fast and abstinence. *Catholics are reminded that they should not lightly excuse themselves from this obligation.*



PARISH LENTEN OBSERVANCES

Weekday Masses

Tuesday through Friday at 8:00 AM
(Daily Mass Chapel)

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Every day from 6:00 AM – 9:00 PM
in the Adoration Chapel

Holy Thursday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Beginning after the Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper until 11:00 PM, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for adoration in our Daily Mass Chapel, which is located on the north side of the church, just behind the rectory.

Night Prayer will occur at 10:45 PM.

Traditional Stations of the Cross

Every Friday in Lent, beginning at 11:00 AM and 7:00 PM in the Church

Parish Lenten Study

Every Monday in March from 6:30 - 7:30 PM

Parish Lenten Confessions

Every Saturday from 3:15 – 4:00 PM

Tuesday, March 31st, 6:30 PM
(additional priests available)

Saturday, April 4th, 3:00 – 4:00 PM

Monday, April 6th, 4 - 4:30 & 7 - 7:30 PM

Friday, April 10th, 12:00 – 12:30 PM

Living Stations of the Cross

Palm Sunday, April 5th at 3:00 PM and
Good Friday, April 10th at 7:00 PM in the Church

Morning Prayer of the Church

April 9th, 10th, & 11th at 8:00 AM
(Daily Mass Chapel)

Blessing of Easter Food

Saturday, April 11th at 12:00 PM

EASTER DUTY

Catholics are required to receive Holy Communion during the Easter season. The obligation can be fulfilled from the First Sunday of Lent (March 1, 2020) until Trinity Sunday (June 7, 2020). Those conscious of serious sin are reminded of the obligation to confess their sins once a year.



"Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep." (Luke 15:6)

***We wish to congratulate the following children of our
Parish who received their First Penance on
Thursday, February 20, 2020:***

***Laura Colorado Cartano
Rianne Escueta
Matthew Espinal
Isabella Fernandez
Wesley Garvin
Raegan Geake
Goldie Haas
Maci Jollife
Lorenzo Munoz***



***Victor Parra
Gweneviere Paul
Kevin Perez
Charly Salinas
Kellan Shaner
Elayna Storm
Justin Villegas
Arabella White***

***May they come to Jesus in the Sacrament of Penance often and
may God bless them as they continue their journey of faith.***

PARISH PHONE DIRECTORY

BUSINESS MANAGER

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

BULLETIN

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sepler@stfrancisallentown.org

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

DEACONS

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ryoung@stfrancisallentown.
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

LITURGICALS 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
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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 484-619-4311

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
msjennchurch@yahoo.com