

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

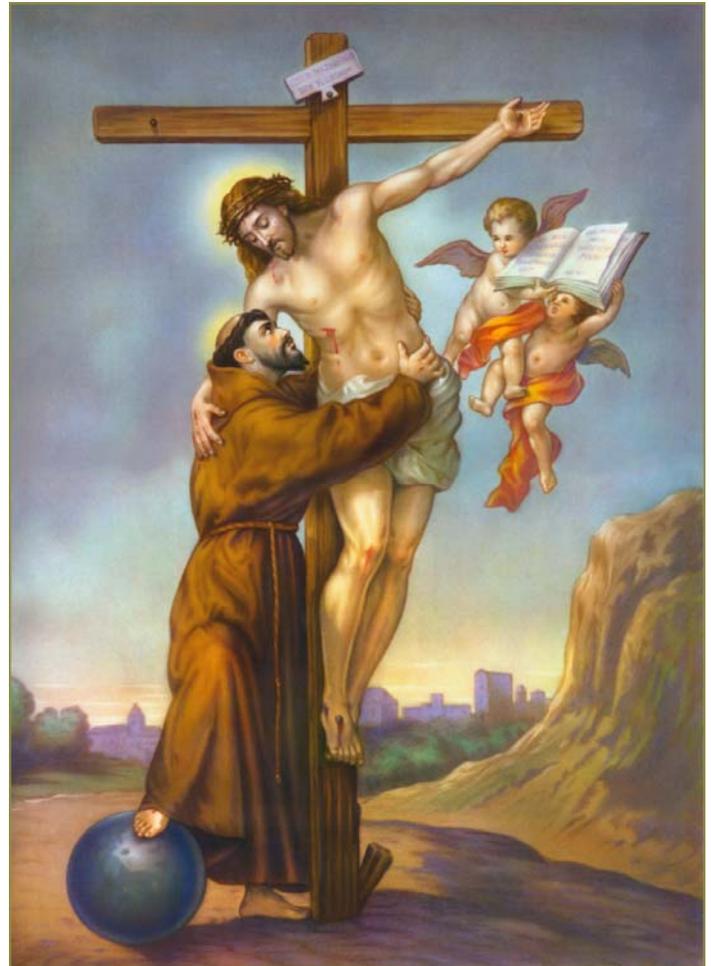
Saturday: 3:15-4:00 PM

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.



March 1, 2020

*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.

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, March 2nd

Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Mt 25:31-46

No Mass

Tuesday, March 3rd

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

8:00 AM Ethel Steiner

Saint Katharine Drexel

Wednesday, March 4th

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

8:00 AM Charles L. Epler

Saint Casimir

Thursday, March 5th

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

8:00 AM Pierina Joan Volpe

Friday, March 6th

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

8:00 AM John S. Butcavage

World Day of Prayer

March 7th & 8th

Second Sunday of Lent

Gn 12:1-4a; 1 Tm 1:8b-10; Mt 17:1-9

4:30 PM Nicholas Troccola

8:30 AM James Schuster

People of St. Francis of Assisi Parish

10:30 AM Marian Jean Hippelli



The Litany of the Sacred Heart will be recited every First Friday (Friday, March 6th at 7:55 AM before Mass in the Daily Mass Chapel).



Sanctuary Lamp Memorials
The Sanctuary Lamp Memorial for the week of
March 1, 2020 is:

*In Memory of Dr. Eugene Drauch
By Miriam Drauch*

Recently Deceased

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



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! **(Tickets will be \$25 at the door)**

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 8, 2020.**

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: St. Francis Senior Citizens, Bill Wallitsch, Frank & Pat Mattes, James & Sandra Maas, Dominic & Karen Wallitsch, and Barbara Quigney & Family

Annamarie Worthington

by: St. Francis Senior Citizens

Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord

Men of St. Francis' Monthly Breakfast

This 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.



Monthly Food Drive

Sponsored by
the Outreach Committee

Our monthly food drive will be next weekend, March 7th & 8th. This month, we particularly need fruit, jelly, spaghetti sauce, and canned meats. No pasta of any kind is needed at this time. We cannot accept any glass jars. **Also, please, no XL containers.** Collection bins will be available at the entrances of the church for your donations. **Help is needed on collection weekends to help move the food donations from the vestibule area to the pantry after each Mass.**

Gertrude Hawk Candy Sale

Gertrude Hawk Candy catalogs were enclosed in last weekend's bulletins. **Your orders are due in the Parish Office no later than Sunday, March 8th (NEXT SUNDAY).** Pick-up of your orders will be after all weekend Masses on April 4th & 5th.



- 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: 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!

- 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.

Craft and Vendor Fair

St. John Vianney Regional School's 8th Grade is hosting a Craft and Vendor Fair on Sunday, March 15th, 2020 from 9 AM to 3 PM, featuring handmade crafts, pottery, wood items, jewelry, quilts and more. Bake sale, raffle, food and more! St. Catharine of Siena Church, 1825 W. Turner Street, Allentown, PA 18104

www.StJohnVianneySchool.org



Recitation of the Rosary

The Rosary will be recited before all the Masses next weekend, March 7th & 8th. The Rosary begins about 25 minutes before each Mass.



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 at St. Francis Center for Renewal in Bethlehem. 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.

PREP prepares for Lent

Our PREP students returned from their break to get ready for Lent. All of our children received the Little Purple Book (for the younger ones) or the Little Black Book to use during the Lenten season, just like the adults of the parish. We discussed that Ash Wednesday is not a holy day of obligation but that everyone should try to attend Mass or Liturgy of the Word service. Kids also began work on their grade level curriculum on Lent. Our littlest PREPSTERS even did art work on how they plan on being faithful during Lent. You can see their work as you enter Church.



Our PREPsters will enjoy their own Penance Service on March 31, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. We are all hoping for a wonderful Lent where we can truly appreciate all that Jesus did for us!

- March 1st - Class
- March 8th - Class
- March 15th - Class
- March 22nd - Class
- March 29th - Class and Youth Mass
- March 31st - Lenten Penance Service 6:00



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!

On Behalf of The Youth Ministry Thank you to our fellow parishioners for your overwhelming support at our flower sale the weekend after Valentine's Day. We are now **HALFWAY** to our financial goal for our trip to the Steubenville Conference in July. We will be making palm braids and crosses again this year and selling them at all Masses the weekend of Palm Sunday. Thank you in advance for your support, and please remember to keep us in prayer!



Youth Ministry Meetings

- Sunday, March 1st - Regular meeting from 11:30 AM to 1 PM**
- Sunday, March 22nd - 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/>

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.



A reminder that Daylight Savings Time begins next weekend (March 8th). Don't forget to set your clocks ahead 1 hour!

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!



Children's Liturgy of the Word
March Schedule:
March 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd

Catechism Classes For Men

Every first and third Tuesday of the month (March 3rd) 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.

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 this Wednesday, March 4th. 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 for more information.



Parish Library



Just a reminder, we have a parish library in the vestibule. There are many informative religious books available to borrow.

No Greater Love

A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion
Lenten Film Study

Session One - March 2nd - 6:30 PM - The Prayer of the Agony

If you are interested in reading scripture passages ahead of time to prepare for the evening, an information sheet is available in the Parish Office.



Further sessions include:

March 9th - Are You the Christ

March 16th - The Trial Before Pilate

March 23rd - The Death of the Messiah

March 30th - The Seven Last Words

All sessions begin at 6:30 and conclude at 7:30 in the Parish Hall. This study is FREE and open to the public. All are welcome. We hope you can join us to have a truly spiritual Lent.

Recently Baptized



We welcome to our parish family the following newly baptized children: **Kevin Arturo Perez**, son of Arturo Perez and Marisol Salinas, and **Charly Anthony Salinas**, son of Silvano Salas and Marisol Salinas. We pray that our Lord will be with them all of their days guiding them through life's journey.

Calling ALL children eligible to receive Confirmation in either 2021 or 2022!



Confirmation (like all Sacrament preparation) is a two year process. If your child will be eligible to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in 2021 or 2022, make sure to reach out to Mrs. Camille Stockdale NOW to insure your child is completing all necessary requirements (this includes children attending SJV or other parochial school or public/home school students).

The Confirmation 2021 Spring Meeting is scheduled for March 15 at 9:05 a.m. in the School Building - Hall (where PREP assembles each week).

If you have any questions - contact Mrs. Camille Stockdale 484 547 6270

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

Liturgical Ministers Schedule - Saturday and Sunday, March 7th & 8th

	<u>4:30 PM</u>	<u>8:30 AM</u>	<u>10:30 AM</u>
Lector	J. Fittipaldi	M. Issermoyer	B. Sheaffer
Eucharistic Minister	B. Nutting, B. Ocasio	T. Fallon, J. Grieff	N. & C. Wargo
Cantor	E. Krause	L. Hannis	P. Rollins
Organist	C. Hageman	D. Badesso	D. Badesso
Altar Servers	D. & J. Krause	C. Kocon	L. Sheaffer
Sacristan	J. Burgos	N. Stofko	
Children's Liturgy of the Word			H. Beck, J. Reasinger



"Grandmas Helping Grandmas" Assumption B.V.M. church in Bethlehem has a new ministry that supports Grandmas! It's called "Grandmas Helping Grandmas". Our group was inspired

by those who are going above and beyond the traditional role of a Grandmother. We celebrate and support deserving Grandmas through random acts of kindness. We join together to pool our skills and financial resources to make a powerful impact on future generations. Our website is: www.grandmas-helping-grandmas.com and our email is: grandmashelpinggrandmas@gmail.com.

Do any of you know a grandma who is going "above and beyond"? If so, please let us know and we'll surprise them with a gift bag. It's nice to know that there are others who notice and appreciate the hard work of caring for our grandkids!



Parking Lot Entrance

Please note that the Church parking lot between the Church and School is ONE WAY ONLY. Please do not leave the parking lot via the Washington Street entrance, nor drive into the parking lot through the exit on Cedar Street.

Thank you.



St. Francis Center for Renewal

Luck of the Irish Raffle

200 Tickets to be sold at \$50 a piece

- First Prize: \$2500 2nd Prize: \$1250
- 3rd prize: \$500 4th prize: \$250
- 5th prize: \$250 6th prize: \$250

Drawing: March 30, 2020, 8:00 PM at the Pot o' Gold Celebration, Retreat Center Dining Room. Party Starts at 7:00 PM. Sponsored by Donegal Square. To purchase tickets, send check to St. Francis Center for Renewal, Attention Jan Gough, 395 Bridle Path Road, Bethlehem PA 18017. For credit card purchase please call the main office at 610-867-8890.

Respect Life Holy Hour

There is a Respect Life Holy Hour every First Friday (March 6th) from 7:00 to 8:00 PM in the Adoration Chapel. Deacon Bob will be the Presider. All are welcome. For information, call Karin at 610-351-0835.

St. Francis Senior Citizens

On Tuesday, March 10th, 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.

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.



Our Weekly Stewardship

Weekend of February 22nd & 23rd

# of envelopes mailed:	722
# of envelopes received:	214
% of envelopes used:	30%
Total of First Collection	\$7,784.12
Total of Second Collection	\$1,346.00
<i>Thank you for your continued financial support through our "Joyfully Living, Gratefully Giving" campaign. Your donation is so greatly appreciated.</i>	

SPRING FLING BAZAAR

Sunday, March 29th, 8:00AM to 3:00 PM

St. Paul's Parish Center

219 W. Susquehanna St., Allentown

Vendors, Crafts, Raffles, Food & More!

Vendors/Crafters Needed -

Email sprccbulletin@rcn.com for a registration form.

Golf Tournament Benefit

St. Joseph Center for Special Learning in Pottsville is hosting it's 29th Annual Golf Classic tournament on May 15th at Mountain Valley Golf Course. Discover why St. Joseph Center for Special Learning is truly a special place for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Sponsor and/or join us for an adventurous day of food, fellowship and, of course... golf! For more information, please visit www.stjosephctr.com.



Thank You

We hope you noticed the new TV screen in our vestibule during the Welcoming/Evangelization social last weekend. This will enable us to show announcements and communicate other important information.

We wish to thank Scott Wargo for the work he did to get our new TV screen set up and running. We appreciate you giving of your time and talent!

St. Francis of Assisi Choir Schedule



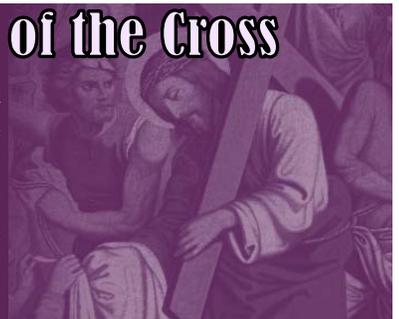
All are welcome to join us to rejoice in the Lord through gathering together in song.

Choir Practice Thursday evenings from 6:30 - 7:30 PM, and singing at

10:30 AM Masses throughout Lent.

Stations of the Cross

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



EASTER NUT ROLL SALE

A perfect treat for a family gathering, these homemade nut rolls baked by *Country Cottage Bake Shop* are delicious and can be frozen and saved for your Easter dinner or anytime! Consider buying a roll to support your Parish - we need to sell 100 to place an order. **All orders must be prepaid and are due by Sunday, March 22nd.** No orders can be accepted after that date.



Price: \$16/roll

Size: 15" long, 1.5 lbs

Flavors: Nut (English Walnut), Poppyseed, Apricot, Prune (Lekvar) Red Raspberry (seedless), & new flavor - Coconut Cream

PICK-UP DATE: After the Masses in the Parish Office the weekend of Palm Sunday (Saturday, April 4th & Sunday, April 5th)



NUT ROLL ORDER FORM

Name: _____

Phone number: _____

Address: _____

Quantity of each: Nut: _____

Poppyseed: _____

Apricot: _____

Prune: _____

Red Raspberry: _____

Coconut Cream: _____

Total Number of rolls: _____ @ \$16 per roll

Total payment enclosed: _____

Please make checks payable to Saint Francis Church. All orders must be prepaid and are due by Sunday, March 22nd.

Polka Mass at St. Joseph's in Bethlehem
All are welcome to attend celebration of St. Joseph Feast Day "Polka" Mass at 10:30 am on Saturday, March 21st at St. Joseph's Slovenian/Windish (106-year-old Romanesque) Church located at 417 East 5th Street in Bethlehem. sjosephbethlehempa.com In 2008, several of our European churches in South Side Bethlehem closed. We invite all Catholics especially those past parishioners of closed South Side Bethlehem churches an opportunity to re-unite in attending this 12th Anniversary Mass.



Visit The Holy Land

From November 16 thru 23, 2020
Spiritual Director: Rev. George Winne
Coordinator: Deacon Ricardo Reyes
Price: \$2,963

We only have 35 seats at this price. From 36 and above, the price may be higher! Register today!
Contact Deacon Ricardo Reyes: 347-851-9815 for more information. Brochures with registration forms can be found on the bulletin board in the back of church.

Outreach Bus Trip to Mohegan Sun

The next bus trip for the Outreach Committee's monthly trip to Mohegan Sun is Tuesday, March 17th. 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. To sign up for this trip; call Pat at 610-515-5975 or the church at 610-433-6102.



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.

