

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 Richard C. Brensinger, M. Div.

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, especially during this year of the Real Presence. Our Adoration Chapel is open daily from 6:00 AM—9:00 PM.



September 5, 2021
Twenty-Third Sunday
in Ordinary Time



Year of Real
PRESENCE

CENTERED IN THE HOLY EUCHARIST





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 (at least three months) 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.

Godparents & Confirmation Sponsors Info

You must be at least 16 years of age, have received the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation, must attend Mass regularly and, if married, the marriage must be recognized by the church. These requirements are the universal law of the church. All requests for 'Letters of Good Standing' are to be made well in advance to the Parish Office.

Ministry to the Sick

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, September 6th **Labor Day**
Col 1:24--2:3; Lk 6:6-11
8:00 AM Fred Baranek

Tuesday, September 7th
Col 2:6-15; Lk 6:12-19
8:00 AM Joseph Gross

Wednesday, September 8th **The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
Mi 5:1-4a; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23
8:00 AM Mike Cashman

Thursday, September 9th **Saint Peter Claver**
Col 3:12-17; Lk 6:27-38
8:00 AM Donald Camp

Friday, September 10th
1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14; Lk 6:39-42
8:00 AM Ruth Smoyer

Saturday and Sunday, September 11th & 12th
Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 50:4c-9a; Jas 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35

4:30 PM Adele E. Polzer
8:30 AM Robert Grunberg
10:30 AM John G. Waricher
 People of St. Francis of Assisi Parish



Please Note: There will be an 8:00 AM Mass on Labor Day, Monday, September 6th. We hope everyone will take advantage of this opportunity to attend Mass on this holiday.



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
 September 5, 2021 is

In Memory of Emilia Ilagan
By The Moser Family



Recently Deceased

Please pray for the souls of parishioners Walter Kleinschuster and Margaret Amey, who recently passed away. Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and may their families know your peace and comfort.

Sanctuary Memorial Fund

We acknowledge these contributions in memory of:

Walter Kleinschuster

by: Steve & Donna Gerancher, Mary Ann & Jules Koefler, Theresa Riemer, Frances and Carla, The Neupauer Family

Eternal rest, grant unto him, O Lord

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 **Tuesday, September 7th**. To order, call the Parish Office at 610-433-6102.

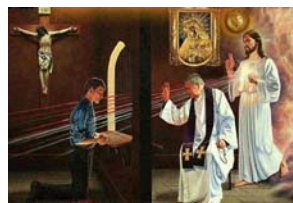


Annual Diocesan Anniversary Mass

Married couples around the Diocese will be invited to renew their vows and thank God for the gift of the Sacrament of Marriage during the annual Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, September 19th.

Bishop Alfred Schlert will celebrate the Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Catharine in Allentown at 3:00 PM on Sunday, September 19, 2021. The Mass will also be livestreamed on AD Today and the Diocese of Allentown Facebook page.

The Mass will fulfill your Sunday obligation. Please register to attend, www.allentowndiocese.org/anniversarymass email stewardship@allentowndiocese.org or call toll free 1-800-831-4443.



Reconciliation

A Reminder: The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available at St. Francis of Assisi Parish every Saturday from 3:15 to 4:00 PM, or by appointment. Neighboring parishes have similar schedules, but check their website or call them to be sure of their times. Please avail yourself of the opportunity to receive this Sacrament. Reconciliation is not only for those who feel they have grave mortal sins, it is a way to receive grace from God. No matter how long it has been since your last confession, God will welcome you and help bring you peace.



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- Kindergarten through 8th Grade
- Safe Environment, Faith-Filled Curriculum
- Outstanding Academics
- Free Tour and Shadow Days

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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!

ATTENTION:

St. John Vianney School is still looking for teachers for this school year. We are currently looking for a Spanish teacher as well as a 5th Grade Teacher. If interested, please email principal@stjohnvianneyschool.org



First Penance Meeting

This meeting is scheduled for September 23rd at 6:00 PM. in the CHURCH.

All parents of children - any age - who are preparing to receive this Sacrament in 2022 should attend - including SJV children and older students (Grades 3 - 12).

(If your child is receiving First Communion this year - they will receive First Penance FIRST.) If you are uncertain if you should attend - contact Mrs. Stockdale

First Penance Dates to REMEMBER:

First Penance Meeting - September 23rd, 6:00 CHURCH

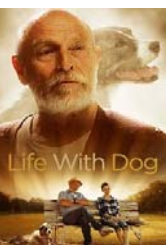
First Penance Practice/First Communion Meeting - February 22, 2022, 6:00 CHURCH

First Penance - February 24, 2022, 6:30 CHURCH



Parish Office Closing

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed on Monday, September 6th in observance of Labor Day.

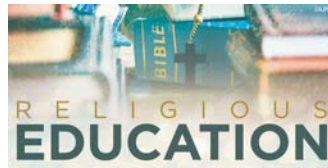


Movie Club

Movie Club - we'll be back.... October 18!
Life with Dog
Doors Open at 6:30 - Movie Begins at 7:00
Free movie, popcorn, soda, candy and door prizes!

We hope you can join us -

Movie Club - Always Faithful, Always Fun, Always Free, ALL are WELCOME



Due to the climbing numbers of COVID cases - the Diocese has put into place procedures for keeping your children safe while undergoing their religious education.

* Masks are required for ALL persons entering the building - for any reason - whether vaccinated or not. These include drop-offs, pick ups and short visits.

* All children/teachers/volunteers and guests entering classrooms will be required to use hand sanitizer.

* We are offering homeschooling options. All students who choose to be homeschooled MUST complete all work as if attending classes IN PERSON and abide by any deadlines outlined by Mrs. Stockdale and their child's teacher(s). Further details can be provided by Mrs. Stockdale.

Registrations are being accepted NOW.

All registrations should be completed and ready to be turned in to the parish office or on September 12th.

September 12th - 9:00 to 10:00 - Meet the Teacher, Book Pick Up

September 19th - First Class 9:00 - students go directly up to 2nd floor

September 26th - Class - NO YOUTH MASS

Red, White and Blue Mass at St. Joseph the Worker



Mark your calendars for the diocesan Red, White, and Blue Mass, to be held on Saturday, September 11th, the 20th anniversary of the attacks on our nation.

Police, firefighters, first responders, health care workers, military, legal professionals, elected officials and their families are invited.

Bishop Alfred Schlert will be the main celebrant.

Deacon Greg Kandra of the Brooklyn Diocese, whose blog "The Deacon's Bench" has garnered 20 million readers around the world, and who co-wrote an acclaimed documentary on the Sept. 11 attacks, will speak at a reception afterward.

The 3 PM Mass at St. Joseph the Worker Church in Orefield will satisfy the Sunday obligation.

The Mass will be preceded by a display of emergency response vehicles beginning at 2 PM.



Lost and Found Cleanup

Have you lost anything in the past year or two? Our "Lost and Found" box is full, and there will be a table in the Gathering Space displaying items that were found in and around church on the weekend of September 11th & 12th. Unclaimed articles will be discarded or donated to Attic Treasures.

St. Francis Fest -- October 2 - 3, 2021



We have set dates for St. Francis Fest in the fall!

It will be a two day event, taking place on Saturday, October 2nd from 10 AM to 4 PM and Sunday, October 3rd from 12 Noon to 5 PM.

There will be Attic Treasures, a Basket Raffle, Bake Sale and Food to eat in or take out. It will be a cash only event, no tokens.



Attic Treasures **DONATIONS NEEDED**



Donation Drop-off:

Saturdays, September 18th & September 25th
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM in the Church Hall.

Items should be delivered to the Church Hall using
The 11th Street door. Items must be **CLEAN**; small
Appliances **MUST WORK**.

Plastic and paper grocery bags are accepted and
greatly appreciated. (They are needed to package
sold items during the festival.)

*For more information, call Phyllis Johnson
at 484-522-9619.*

WE CANNOT TAKE:

Tires, Car Equipment, Major Appliances (stoves, washers, dryers, etc.), Upholstered or Large Furniture (sofas, dining room table, etc.), Encyclopedias, Magazines, Bookshelves, Clothes, Shoes, Baby Furniture, (cribs, walkers, car seats, playpens, etc.), Luggage, Used Computers and Accessories, Entertainment Centers, TVs, VCRs, VHS Tapes, 8-tracks, Cassettes, Bowling Ball, Gas Grills, Kerosene Heaters, Weightlifting or Fitness Equipment, Christmas Lights, Christmas Trees (4 feet or taller).

All other items not listed here are accepted.



Bake Sale

You are invited to share your great cookie, cake, pastry or pie recipes with us. Baked goods can be delivered to the Church Hall after 1:00 PM, Friday, October 1st. Call Sharon Todora at 610-740-0781 and leave a message.

Our Fall Fest Needs Your Help! Please consider donating a themed basket for the Basket Raffle. Possible themes are: Snacks, Kitchen, Coffee/Tea, Toys, Hobbies and Sports, Car wash, Grill/BBQ, Lottery Tickets, Baking, Cooking, Gardening, etc. Please include only NEW items. Wrap the basket in clear cellophane and attach a card that identifies the theme and items. Or we would be happy to wrap your basket for you! (Just drop off the items at the parish office) ***We are also collecting UNUSED GIFT CARDS that are lingering in your wallets/purses.*** All baskets and items can be dropped off at the parish office Monday-Friday from 9:00-4:00 PM or before and after Masses on the weekends. Any questions, please contact Heidi Beck, 484-553-9430 or at Heidi.beck94@gmail.com



Children's Liturgy of the Word

We have made the difficult decision to put Children's Liturgy on HOLD for the time being while the COVID situation continues to be uncertain. We want to keep our parish children and volunteers SAFE. We will keep you informed as to when you can expect. Children's Liturgy to return on Sundays at the 10:30 AM Mass. In the meantime, we hope your children continue to attend Mass and you are enjoying the Children's Bulletins.

Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Day

On Wednesday, October 20th from 8 AM to 11 PM, Boscov's Department Store will again host their popular **FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS** event, a special day filled with fun and fundraising. **Shopping passes for this special event are available at the Parish Office for only \$5 each.** Each pass includes a 25% discount shopping pass* for purchases made only on October 20, 2021, free refreshments, and enters you to win fabulous door prizes that include \$500 shopping sprees. St. Francis of Assisi will keep the entire \$5 made on each pass. Help us to earn even more by purchasing your Boscov's gift cards at the Parish Office! (*Some exclusions apply)



Divorce Support Group

A Divorce Support Group will be offered at St. Thomas More, Allentown, beginning Wednesday, September 8th from 6 to 7:30 PM. The group will use the TM DivorceCare Program. It is an educational and support meeting with a Catholic emphasis. Participants will learn how to heal from the hurt of divorce and find hope for the future. Cost of \$25 covers the 13 week program. Registrants are welcome to join anytime. Register at www.divorcecare.org/groups/137315.



St. Francis Retreat House, Easton, invites you to a Monday Mini-Retreat on September 20th to explore Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Si with presenter Marie North. Dinner begins at 6:00 PM; the presentation "Why Laudato Si and Why Should We Care?" continues from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. Virtual participants need to register by September 17th; donation is \$15. In-person participants need to register by September 13th; donation is \$30. Contact us at 610-258-3053, x34 or www.stfrancisretreathouse.org.

St. Francis Senior Citizens is Back!

On Tuesday, September 14th, the Senior Citizens will meet at 1:00 PM in Heritage Hall for a short meeting, bingo and cards. For info, call Madeline Klotz at 610-395-7386.



Our Weekly Stewardship

Weekend of August 28th & 29th

Sunday in Pew \$ 5,616.75
 Sunday Online \$ 3,114.50
Thank you for your continued contributions to our parish. We appreciate all that you do, financially and other ways, to make our parish great. Please consider online giving. It's safe, easy and secure. Visit our website for more information.

**Holy Ghost Parish Grab 'n' Go Dinner Series
 417 Carlton Avenue, Bethlehem, PA**

On Saturday nights after 4:00 PM Mass till 6:30 ONLY--Take Out must be pre-ordered - Payment must accompany order. All Dinners \$12.



- Saturday, September 18th** - Roast Beef w/Mashed Potatoes, Vegetable, Salad, roll
- Call the rectory 610-867-9782 #3 for Ron or Lisa if you would like to place an order.
- Future Saturday Grab 'n' Go dinners:*
- Saturday, October 30th** - Pasta Dinner w/Meat Balls or Sausage
- Saturday, November 13th** - Stuffed Flounder w/Crab Meat or 2 Crab Patties
- Saturday, January 1st** - Pork N Kraut Dinner
- All Are Welcome!!



Steak Sandwich Dinner
 St. Elizabeth Parish is sponsoring our famous Drive Thru Steak Sandwich Meal on Saturday, September 25, 2021. Steaks are \$11 each and Cheese Steaks are \$12.00 each. This includes: sauce, onions, pickles and hot peppers - all on the side. Orders are due by September 20th. Pick up is at St. Elizabeth Parish Hall, 435 Pershing Boulevard, Whitehall from 4 – 5:30 PM. For more information or to place an order, see our parish web site for the order form www.sercc.org/ or, please contact Joan at 610-349-7791 or email dirreled@sercc.org. Orders can be dropped off at the parish office or placed in the weekend collection baskets or mailed to: Steak Sandwiches, St. Elizabeth Church, 618 Fullerton Ave., Whitehall, PA 18052.

The Liturgical Ministers availability sheet is due to Donna Gerancher by Sunday, September 5, 2021.

Liturgical Ministers Schedule—Saturday and Sunday, September 11th & 12th

	<u>4:30 PM</u>	<u>8:30 AM</u>	<u>10:30 PM</u>
Lector	H. Moyer	J. Grieff	D. Colom
Eucharistic Minister	V. Herman	---	---
Cantor	A. Eaves	D. Lamparella	P. Rollins
Organist	D. Badesso	R. Venditto	D. Badesso

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

Fr. Richard C. Brensinger 610-433-6102
rbrensinger@allentowndiocese.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

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

Linda Borosky, Interim Principal 610-435-8981
mrsborosky@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

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

