

# *Saint Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church*

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

[www.stfrancisallentown.org](http://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: 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.



*"St. Francis of Assisi Consoled by Angels" by Badalocchio*

*October 4, 2020*

*Feast of  
St. Francis of Assisi*

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, 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.

### **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](http://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](http://www.ReportBishopAbuse.org) or by calling 800-276-1562.

# Mass Schedule

**Monday, October 5th** Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos  
Gal 1:6-12; Lk 10:25-37

No Mass

**Tuesday, October 6th** Saint Bruno,  
Gal 1:13-24; Lk 10:38-42 Blessed Marie Rose Durocher

**8:00 AM** Susan Mesaros (Public Mass)

**Wednesday, October 7th** Our Lady of the Rosary  
Gal 2:1-2, 7-14; Lk 11:1-4

**8:00 AM** Adele E. Polzer (Public Mass)

**Thursday, October 8th**

Gal 3:1-5; Lk 11:5-13

**8:00 AM** Mary Ann Nemes (Public Mass)

**Friday, October 9th** Saint Denis and companions,  
Gal 3:7-14; Lk 11:15-26 Saint John Leonardi

Intentions of Pattie Christenson (Private Mass)

**October 10th & 11th**

**Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Is 25:6-10a; Phil 4:12-14, 19-20; Mt 22:1-14

**4:30 PM** John Fignar

**10:30 AM** Louis J. Gerancher

Karl & Phyllis Dunst

People of St. Francis Parish

## Mass Schedule

Our Mass schedule is near fully back to our normal schedule. Masses on the weekdays are celebrated on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 8:00 AM in the Church. Weekend Masses are celebrated at 4:30 PM on Saturday and 10:30 AM on Sunday also in the Church. The Church main door will open thirty minutes before the weekend 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  
October 4, 2020 is

**In Memory of Harry I. Torrey**

**by: Daughter, Pam Stiles**

## Youth Ministry

**Next meeting dates are:**

**Sunday, October 4th:** 7 PM on Zoom

**Sunday, October 18th:** Meeting in our  
YM Room after 10:30 AM Mass, 11:30  
to 1:30 PM.

Open to teens in Grades 6 through 12. Please contact Ms. Jenn for more info at 484.433.0265 or jreasinger@st-francisallentown.org



## 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](http://www.stfrancisallentown.org) for information to sign up.

## Recently Deceased

Please pray for the soul of Yvon Alexis, father of parishioner Daphne Alexis, 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.)



## Recitation of the Rosary

The Rosary will be recited before Masses every weekend in October (before our 10:30 Mass on Facebook) as we honor Mary in her special month.



## Feed Your Faith Monthly Order

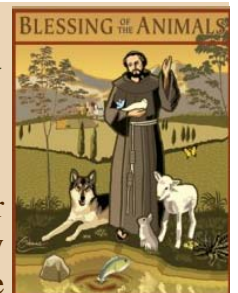
There are 40 different stores in stock every day, and once a month, hundreds of different stores and denominations are available through our monthly order program. To see the entire list of retailers, go to [www.glscrip.com](http://www.glscrip.com) and click home page. The next monthly order will be placed on **Monday, October 5th**. To order, call the Parish Office at 610-433-6102.

## Blessing of Pets

**Sunday, October 4th at 12:30 PM**  
**in our main parking lot**  
**(weather permitting)**

We ask that all animals be under the control of their owners by leash or in a crate or carrier. Please spread the word! We hope you and your pet will be able to join us as we do something special for these creatures who bring us such joy!

In the event of inclement weather, the blessing will be cancelled.





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

### St. John Vianney Regional School is hiring!

Have you always had a desire to contribute to the academic and spiritual growth of our students? Consider this opportunity to contribute to the school's mission.

- ◆ Per diem substitute teachers needed

Contact Dr. Emily Kleintop, Principal, at drkleintop@stjohnvianneyschool.org OR call 610-435-8981.

Check us out at: [www.stjohnvianneyschool.org](http://www.stjohnvianneyschool.org)

[www.StJohnVianneySchool.org](http://www.StJohnVianneySchool.org)

### Catholic and Curious: How to Become a Saint

#### What are the stages to becoming a Saint?

The process for being declared a saint is ancient, traditional, and often mysterious. Evidence must be presented to persuade Church officials that the person in question in fact lived a virtuous life, had faith, and had the support and help of God. The Church also looks at miracles as evidence that God is working through that person.

#### Stages on the road to sainthood

Usually, the process of recognizing a saint starts no earlier than five years after a person's death. Usually, the potential saint's pastor presents the case to the bishop. Specific stages are met on the path to being declared a saint:

**Servant of God:** As soon as the person is accepted for consideration, she's called a Servant of God.

**Venerable:** After the Vatican Congregation for the Causes of Saints determines that the servant of God lived a life of heroic virtue, she is granted the title of venerable. Heroic virtue doesn't mean a person was perfect or sinless, but that she worked aggressively to improve herself spiritually and never gave up trying to be better and grow in holiness.

**Blessed:** After the Church establishes one miracle, the venerable person's cause is presented to the pope to see whether he deems her worthy of being called blessed. This step is called beatification and is the next-to-last step.

**Saint:** Another miracle and the blessed person's cause is presented to the pope again for his judgment. If he determines that the evidence is clear and that contrary reports aren't credible, he may initiate the canonization procedure. If all goes well, the candidate is publicly recognized as a saint.

**Next time, we will learn about the Process!**



Friends Helping Friends is going contactless for 2020!

Boscov's has implemented changes to allow us to raise funds for our church while staying healthy and safe at home. They have simplified their event by eliminating selling tickets altogether.

On two big days, October 14th & 15th, you may shop online or in-store with no shopping pass to purchase! You save 20% off lowest sale prices on almost everything (\*10% discount items and exclusions apply.) We receive 5% back of your total purchase **when you mention St. Francis of Assisi Church by name in-store at the register or online at checkout!**

\*Visit [www.boscovs.com/friendshelpingfriends](http://www.boscovs.com/friendshelpingfriends) for a listing of items receiving a 10% discount and exclusions.



### 40 Days for Life

#### Want to end abortion?

The Fall 2019 40 Days for Life Prayer Campaign has started and will go through November 1st, at the Allentown Planned Parenthood (abortion facility), 29 N. 9th Street, Allentown. For more information, call Maryanne at 610-570-2347.

#### Liturgical Ministers Schedule - Saturday and Sunday, October 10th & 11th

	<u>4:30 PM</u>	<u>8:30 AM</u>	<u>10:30 AM</u>
Lector	C. Stockdale		R. Granitz
Eucharistic Ministers			
Cantor			
Organist	D. Badesso		D. Badesso
Altar Servers			
Sacristan			

**No Ministers other than Lector & Organist**

## PREP

### PREP enjoys it's First Youth Mass of the Year



It may not have looked the same, but it sure felt great celebrating the Eucharist together on September 27, 2020. We came to Mass with our families and we celebrated on Facebook LIVE. It was great to see everyone again!

October 4th - 10 Classes continue Sunday - Thursday via ZOOM

Sunday, October 11th begins our first IN PERSON class for Grade 8

October 11th for Grades K and 1st is via ZOOM. On October 12th - 2nd Grade meets IN PERSON, with the remaining classes for that week all being held via ZOOM. This year of PREP is different, but we know WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE!



## Our Weekly Stewardship

### Weekend of September 26th & 27th

Sunday in Pew	\$ 5,568.00
Sunday Online	\$ 2,929.50
Second Collection in Pew	\$ 503.00

***During this very trying time we ask all parishioners to PLEASE keep up with their normal weekend collection. You may mail in your collection or hold it until the next time you come to Church for Mass. Either way, we ask that you do whatever you can to stay current so that we may continue to stay current with our bills and other expenses. Don't forget about Online Giving as a possibility. It's easy, safe, and secure.***

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

## AS WE CELEBRATE OUR FEAST DAY

Often saints have symbols or images that have become synonymous with them. Each saint has a story and a reason why he or she led an exemplary life. Symbols have been used to tell these stories throughout the history of the Church. For example, Saint Peter is often represented with the Keys of Heaven. Our patron Saint Francis of Assisi has many, some that are obvious where as others are not as well-known. Below is an explanation of some of these symbols:

**Tau Cross:** Francis used this cross as a signature. He used it in his writings and painted it on the walls and doors of the places he stayed. A simple cross, the Tau is the last letter of the Hebrew Alphabet and looks like the letter 'T'. At the Fourth Lateran Council in 1215, of which Francis was a part, Pope Innocent made reference to it saying that it has the same for the Cross on which Christ was crucified and that those marked with this sign will obtain mercy through their living their lives in a simple fashion, to that of our Crucified Savior. From then on, it has become Francis' coat of arms.

**San Damiano Cross:** This is the cross that represents the one that Francis was praying in front of when he received the commission from God to rebuild His Church. The name coming from the city where Francis was - San Damiano. This cross is an icon, meaning it is a painting in a specific style of Jesus Christ or the Saints. If you look at the cross, there are many pieces—the crucified Christ gazes directly at us, He is not hanging from the cross but rather looks as if he is supporting it, and it is not a horrific image of Christ crucified. It is a noble and gentle portrayal, often associated with the peace of eternal life. There are also images of the Ascension of Christ at the top, a host of angels around his hands, and his disciples around his body: the Blessed Mother, Saint John the Evangelist, and so on. Franciscans cherish this cross as a symbol of their mission.

**Animals:** His love for God and all creatures of the earth has made this the most famous symbol, exceeding the Catholic faith. Through his life, Francis had many encounters with animals, such as the confrontation with the wolf who was terrorizing the people of Gubbio. When he was approached by the ravenous wolf, Francis made the sign of the cross toward it, which calmed the beast, calling him "Brother Wolf" and demanding that he make peace with the people he had been terrorizing

**A Skull:** "Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Bodily Death, from whom no living man can escape." (from the Canticle of Brother Sun) This may seem like the oddest symbol of St. Francis because we often don't picture him in this light; however, it represents the life he led. He knew from early on in his mission that he was never far from death and he was always looking toward eternal life with his heavenly Father. He spent his life trying to embody Christ as best as he could - through poverty, embracing hunger, isolation, illness, and, in a very real way, through the reception of the Stigmata. Through the darkness and suffering of his life, which we often don't associate with the great saint, he was able to live a life that led him to shine forth as the model of Christian life.

***"Most high, glorious God, enlighten the darkness of my heart and give me, Lord, a correct faith, a certain hope, a perfect charity, sense and knowledge, so that I may carry out your holy and true command. Amen"***

*(St. Francis of Assisi, Prayer before the Crucifix)*



## Announcing Saint Francis of Assisi **VIRTUAL MISSION: *FOR THE LOVE OF GOD***

Speaker: Nationally acclaimed Catholic Speaker, Husband, Father, Musician, Motivational Speaker, Evangelist, and Writer

*Chris Padgett*

Dates: Sunday: October 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and November 1<sup>st</sup>

Time: 3:00 PM



**Session 2 – October 18<sup>th</sup>:** Called by love — You were created to be loved and to love. God’s love for you is not dependent on what you do. You have been picked, prepared, and protected, so you can fulfill your God-given purpose.

**Session 3 – October 25<sup>th</sup>:** What keeps us from love. — Nothing you do can separate you from God’s love. Two things often keep us from the ability to love: sin and fear. Sin makes us selfish, which prevents us from loving the way God commands. Fear of consequences or of what we may be expected to give up often hinders us. When we let God love us, we are free to love others.

**Session 4 – November 1<sup>st</sup>:** Called to Shared His Love — We are invited to share God’s love with others. At our baptism, we are filled with grace. Sin hurts that grace. Remember to beg for the grace, will the good, and make the right choices in the moment.

**WAIT...**

**YOU COULD ALSO WATCH THE FIRST SESSION ON OCTOBER 11<sup>TH</sup> WITH YOUR FELLOW PARISHIONERS IN OUR SOCIALLY-DISTANCED HALL (SEATING LIMITED TO THE FIRST 50 PEOPLE). THAT WOULD BE A GREAT WAY TO EXPERIENCE THE MISSION!**

Chris Padgett is a popular speaker, musician, and author who has traveled around the world for over two decades giving concerts, talks, parish missions, and retreats to all ages about the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ. After converting to Catholicism in 1999, Chris taught at Franciscan University of Steubenville. Currently he teaches with Catholic Distance University in between writing and speaking engagements. He and his wife, Linda, have been married over twenty-nine years and have nine children. The Padgetts live in Central New York in a nine-sided home with a donkey, goats, chickens, and too many rabbits. Learn more about Chris’s crazy family by following their channel on YouTube, The Happy Place Homestead. Chris has published numerous books and articles, and has been involved in video, television, and radio for many years. His recent publications include, *A Spirituality You Can Live With*, *Why the Eucharist Matters for Your Life*, and *I'm Not OK, You're Not Ok, but It's OK*

# Philadelphia Steak Sandwich Sale

Saturday, October 24, 2020

Pick-up only: 4:30 - 6:00 PM



Who doesn't like a great steak sandwich?? Here's your chance to help out your parish and get a great tasting steak sandwich as you like it. A "traditional" Philly Steak Sandwich is just the steak meat and sautéed onions. You can have it "wit" cheese (American or Whiz) or not. Want sauce? We'll even sauce it for you!

Sound good?? Of course it does! So just fill out the form below and get it back to the Parish Office no later than Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. All orders must be in by that date, even mail in orders, so please plan accordingly. Thanks so much for your support....and don't forget to spread the word.



## Philly Steak Sandwich Order Form Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle only what applies to each Steak Sandwich (only one cheese selection per sandwich):

**Steak Sandwich #1:**    with onions    with American Cheese    with Cheese Whiz    with Sauce

**Steak Sandwich #2:**    with onions    with American Cheese    with Cheese Whiz    with Sauce

**Steak Sandwich #3:**    with onions    with American Cheese    with Cheese Whiz    with Sauce

**Steak Sandwich #4:**    with onions    with American Cheese    with Cheese Whiz    with Sauce

Total Sandwiches ordered: \_\_\_\_\_ at \$7.00 each = \$\_\_\_\_\_ (enclosed)  
(checks made payable to: Saint Francis of Assisi)