

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

610-543-0848 (fax) 610-604-0283 <u>www.sfaparish.org</u> <u>contactsfaparish@sfaparish.org</u> ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCHOOL 610-543-0546

Rev. Matthew J. Tralies ~ Pastor Deacon W. Timothy Baxter

Rev. Henry J. McKee ~ In Residence Deacon James J. McGonigal



Interested in having your child Baptized here at St. Francis? Please contact Joan Curtis at the Rectory 610-543-0848 or email us at: BaptismsSFA@gmail.com



To inquire about scheduling your Wedding
Ceremony here at St. Francis,
please contact our Parish Wedding
Assistant, Joan Kane at
ParishWeddingsSFA@gmail.com

For Information regarding Upcoming Funerals & Services,
Please visit our Parish Website at www.sfaparish.org
and click on...





The Sacrament of Confirmation will be held on Saturday, April 5th at 10:00AM.

The Rite of Confirmation will be celebrated by Bishop Edward Deliman.

Congratulations to our Confirmandi. We pray that the Holy Spirit will watch over you and guide you as you confirm your commitment to Him.

May God be with you and bless you as you continue to grow in Him.

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT



Sunday, March 30, 2025

7:30AM Rev. Joseph J. Meehan (1st Ann) 9:30AM Nadia Philiposian

(New Parishioner Welcoming Mass)

11:30AM Shawn Bennett and Marguerite McLaughlin

Monday, March 31, 2025

8:00AM Rev. Joseph J. Meehan

Tuesday, April 1, 2025

8:00AM Kathleen Bergin (1st Ann)

Wednesday, April 2, 2025

8:00AM Mary Ann Calabrese

ADORATION (Following 8AM Mass through 7PM Holy Hour)

Thursday, April 3, 2025

8:00AM Florence B. Kieszek Killian

Friday, April 4, 2025

8:00AM Maria and Rosario Gerbino 9:00AM School Mass

1:30PM School Stations of the Cross

6:30PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday, April 5, 2025

8:00AM Mary Ann Calabrese

10:00AM Sacrament of Confirmation

3:00PM Confessions

4:00PM For the People of the Parish

Sunday, April 6, 2025

7:30AM Rev. Joseph Meehan 9:30AM Mary Ann Calabrese

11:30AM Rev. Joseph Meehan

†REMEMBER ALL THOSE WHO HAVE DIED†

Especially Violet Summa and Kim Rago

May they rest in God's peace and may their families be comforted.



MEMORIAL FOR APRIL

Bread and Wine~ Kelly and Jacki Allen



THE SANCTUARY CANDLE

This candle burns to remind us of the sacramental presence of Jesus Christ. For the week of March **30th**, the candle will burn in loving memory of Grace Donaghy as requested by a Friend.

HOLY ROSARY

Please consider joining us at 7:30am as we pray the Holy Rosary Weekdays and Saturdays before the 8:00am Mass.

PRAYER REQUESTS TOGETHER WE WILL PRAY

Baby Daniel Ruszai Baby Margot Steindl **Emily Belfie** Arthur LeTourneau **Baby DeSantis** Dominic Rosini Lucretia Murphy **Andrew Colona** William Feindt **Monique Carpenter Brian Marandola** Anne McGlone Carmen Salerno Maria DiGiacinto Amy Faulls **David Clemmer** Mary Benedetti **Catherine Lindsey Shealvn Mencel Danny Hynes** Kathy Fritz Robert W. Bollinger Jeannie Brattini **Leslie Dougherty** Joanne DeSantis **Margaret Binetsky** Ron Fraatz Jack Braconnier, Sr. **Denise DeAngelis** Marvann McCaulev Marie Martin **Bob Buchanan** Greg Schmidt Alicia Bona Susan Lower Mary Jean Grandizio **Inger Sexton** Natalie Berry **Gerald Berry** Carolina Longmore Ann Farren Maryann Murphy Dan Bruno Cathy Baj **Malcolm Wills** Jenine Amato Joe Mastalski Deacon Joe Gousie Sandy Keller Sadie Keller Chris Touchton Mark McKinsev Tim Corlies Paul Ansaldo Susan Aljets **Scott Aljets** Fox Family Merkle Family **Kevin Fries Bryan Treude** Rav Binni **David Maxwell Brittany Killen Howard**

Tina Farally

Evan Farrington **Michael Farley Bill Seavey Dolores Govannicci Ethel LeVasseur** Michael Costa Joanne Marks Veronica Suppa Caroline Donovan **Amy Travers Emily Meakim** Paula Bazela Patti Frost Cinko Joe Calabrese **Beverly Scarani** Madelvn O'Keefe Hank McElwee Colleen Fullerton Eileen Bowdren **Brian Griffin** Marsha Four Patricia Lafferty Jack Schultz Michelle Rodger Ambrose Hummel Patricia Lindsey Ian Regino Peggy Burke Franny Devlin **Dobbs Family** Neil Bohley, Sr. **Raysond Mills**

Jake Trimmer

Kari Vecaro

For Our St. Francis of Assisi Parish Community

Ellen Ribbs

Jovce Johnson

If you have someone you would like prayed for, OR have **REMOVED** from prayer list, please email Joan Curtis at sfabulletin@hotmail.com or call the Rectory at 610-543-0848. Thank you for your prayers.

CONGRATULATIONS JACK!!!

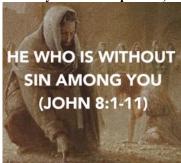


Congratulations to our Knights of Columbus Free Throw State Champion Jack Caramanico. After winning the Council competition at St. Kevin, Jack won the District, Regional and finally the State competition against shooters from all over PA. Jack travelled to Mechanicsburg and made 24 of 25 free throws to win the State Championship.

WEEKLY DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Please join us Wednesday mornings immediately following the 8AM Mass in front of the Sacred Heart statue in Church for the recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Breaking Open the Word 5th Sunday of Lent ~ April 5th, 2025



Isaiah 43: 16-21

A consistent theme in the Scriptures is God's ability to act in ways that transcend human imagination. In the First Reading, the old ways of sin and war and conquest have given way to redemption and hope for new life. "See, I am doing something new." What new life are you experiencing this Lent as you pray, fast and give alms?

Philippians 3: 8-14

St. Paul often speaks of his total dependence on God's mercy, as this Second Reading shows. As you approach Holy Week, how can you let yourself be surprised with mercy and grace, knowing that God has provided for your salvation?

John 8: 1-11

It is wisely said that we cannot know the heart of another human being. The religious leaders sought to test Jesus and trick him into judging the woman accused of public sin. Jesus responded by challenging every person in the crowd to look inward. Who can you fast from judging this week? Who can you view this week with eyes of compassion, as modeled by Jesus? Who can you reach out to who recently experienced heartbreak?

ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY



If anyone is in need of assistance with utility bills, or other bills, or in need of food, or, if you know of someone who needs help, call 610-212-4932 and someone from the St. Vincent will call you.

RIDE FOR MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

If you are in need of a ride to a doctor or test appointment, please call the Rectory 610-543-0848 and someone from the St. Vincent de Paul Society will call you back to coordinate a ride for you.

UPCOMING ST. VINCENT de PAUL EVENT:

<u>April 26th</u> - clothing drive truck pickup in SFA parking lot from 10 AM to 1:00 PM (clothing & small appliances).

Weekly Comparison - Parish Financial Report

3/24/2024

Sunday Envelopes ~ \$14,069.66 Electronic Giving ~ \$ 5,018.19

\$19,087.85

3/23/2025

Sunday Envelopes ~ \$ 13,818.92 Electronic Giving ~ \$ 5,841.74 **\$19,660.66**

RCIA UPDATE FOR PARISHIONERS







Alyssa Chedeville, who we now call the "elect" and who will be baptized, confirmed and receive the Eucharist for the first time on Holy Saturday evening, will take part in special rites called "Scrutinies" on the 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of Lent. The Scrutinies celebrate a deep mystery of our spiritual journey. Through these rites, Alyssa, in preparation for baptism, will be turning over to God any hold sin has on her.

Along with Alyssa, we are also invited to allow God's grace to scrutinize our hearts as we, too once again and more fully this Lent turn over to God any hold sin has on us.

ST. FRANCIS IN ACTION!!

St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Springfield PA seeks to emulate our patron saint in service to others. We seek to encounter people in need through a variety of offerings that provide us with the opportunity to be Christ like and to meet Christ in those we serve.



NEW CITY TEAM EVENT

On **Thursday April 17 from 10AM -12PM**, SFA is offering our assistance at City Team Headquarters in packing Easter Food Boxes and Candy Baskets for families in need. The event will take place at their headquarters at 634 Sproul St., Chester. Children over the age of 6 may volunteer with an adult guardian present. There is Free Parking on-site. In addition they are in need of help delivering these items to the families on Saturday April 19 from 9AM -1PM. **FYI**- No one travels alone, all families receiving packages have been registered by City Team employees. This is a very rewarding task by all accounts! If interested in either of these ministries please visit the City Team website at:

https://cityteam.volunteerhub.com

Either Sign-in if you have volunteered before, or choose Create Account if you are new to City Team. For assistance, questions or if you wish to Carpool from St. Francis, please contact <u>Helengolden1@gmail.com</u> or call 610-457-3702.

CARING FOR FRIENDS (CFF)

Prepared meals for *Caring for Friends* should be dropped off at St. Francis of Assisi Rectory during NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS. The Freezer is located in the Rectory basement. To Drop off on weekends or off hours contact Jill Hoffner or Cheryl Monkman.

Meal tins are located in the SFA rectory (during regular business hours) and the vestibule of the church. If you are interested in this ministry or have any questions, please contact Cheryl Monkman (610)574-5541 or Jill

Hoffner (610)733-1593.

SFA CYO is the recipient of the United Way under the Honor Option Plan. Your donation supports our activities for the youth of our parish. If you wish to support the CYO, please indicate:

CYO/ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI/SPRINGFIELD #7046 SFA CYO



PROTECTING CROPS FROM NATURAL DISASTERS IN BANGLADESH

Shahadat's village, and much of Bangladesh, is located on flat lowlands. The intense rainy season causes flooding that often destroys farms and crops. Find out how Shahadat learned new farming skills from a Catholic Relief Services program that enables him to increase the yield of his vegetable crops despite the challenges of climate change.

Visit www.crsricebowl.org/join to share your Lenten prayer intentions.



Join us as we pray the Novena of the Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Wednesdays at 1:30PM in the Church.



To Host the Pilgrim Queen Statue in your home for one week, (Sunday to Sunday), visit the Parish website at sfaparish.org and click on the link to Sign Up to reserve your week and Be Blessed by Our Lady and Our Lord. For more information, call Roseann Squitiere at 610-328-0635.

THE THREE PARISH BOOK CLUB



The Three Parish Book Club will hold its March meeting in the Family Life Center at Holy Cross on Wednesday, March 26th at 7:00pm. If you would like to join the meeting or would like more information, please contact Terry Price at 610.506.6449 or via email at termprice@verizon.net.

March Book - Essentialism: The Disciplined Pursuit of Less by Greg McKeown.

SAINT FRANCIS OVER 50 CLUB



The next meeting is April 10th. (Spring Fling Day). We are going to have Pizza.

Casino Trips: 4/9, 5/14, 6/11, 7/9, 8/13, and 9/10. Cost is \$35 with return of \$15 in slot play. Bus leaves at 10am from the St. Kevin parking lot (200 W. Sproul Road). Park in spaces adjacent to the Springfield Country Club. Call Joe Gowen at 610-739-8146.

Membership to our Club is open to the entire community. Anyone who is 50 years of age or older may join the Club regardless of sex, religion, or race. For Membership information, call Cathy Randazzo at 610-328-0408 or 610-389-5225.



"PRO-LIFE" LINES"

Crisis Pregnancy Resource hotline: 610-626-4006.

Rachel's Vineyard Post-Abortion healing: 877-HOPE-4-ME

www.rachelsvinevard.org.

A Baby's Breath 24-hour hotline: 484-571-5540.

www.ababysbreath.org.

Delaware County Pregnancy Center: 610-872-2229, www.dcpcchester.org

Mother's Home: 610-583-HOME, www.mothershome.org. Pro-Life Union of Delaware County: 610-789-LIFE.

Our Lady, Oueen of Peace Presidium Legion of Mary



Legion of Mary

The Saint Francis Chapter of the Legion of Mary (Our Lady, Queen of Peace Praesidium) invites you to become an active or auxiliary member of Mary's Legion. Active members attend a weekly meeting and commit to doing two hours of work each week for Mary and her Son. Auxiliary members pray the Legion prayers daily for the intentions of our Blessed Mother. Our Legion meets on Monday afternoons at 1:30 P.M. in the Rectory Chapel. We invite you to join us to learn more about our work. For more information, call Gus McClay at 610 544-7223.



Parish Men's Group meets every Saturday morning virtually from 6:45~8:00AM to share the desire to follow Jesus more closely by being better husbands, fathers, grandfathers, leaders, followers, sons, and friends. All are welcome to join us! Please call in at 6:45AM at 646-558-8656 Meeting ID: 738 611 2876 **Passcode**: 111501.



RaiseRight.

SCRIP sales are held in the gym from 9:30–11am every Sunday (except holidays). If you have any questions, please contact Deb Peterson or Amy Foran at sfascripsales@gmail.com call 484-432-1472 or: https://www.sfaschool.com/scrip/

HOPE IN CHRIST: SPIRITUAL SUPPORT FOR ADDICTIONS

Seeking solace and spiritual support in the journey towards recovery? Many local parishes are offering ways to experience Christ's extended hand of love and mercy in your time of need. Find Catholic resources for addiction for you or your loved one at www.archphila.org/hope

Also available for support is Faith-based drug rehab website: www.AddictionCenter.com/Treatment/Faith-Based-Drug-and-Alcohol-Rehab

Phillip Baumberger Pro-Life Scholarship

Do you know of any **high school Seniors** planning to attend one of these universities or any **current college students** at these schools?

- · University of Pittsburgh
- · Penn State University Park
- · West Chester University of Pennsylvania ·
- · Temple University
- · University of Delaware
- · Thomas Edison State University
- Rowan University

If so, we would like to share this scholarship opportunity with them.

Phillip Baumberger Scholars can earn \$2,000 per year while changing hearts and minds on abortion. The Deadline to Apply is May 2, 2025.



Abortion Dialogue Academy

To Learn More, Visit:

https://www.abortiondialogueacademy.org/scholarship/



All women are invited to join us in fellowship, aimed at strengthening our faith and journeying closer to the heart of God. This year, we will be using Walking with Purpose's "Touching the Divine" bible study. https://walkingwithpurpose.com/bible-study/ for more info and to order the book. Meetings will take place in SFA's Library on select Saturday mornings at 8:30am, beginning September 14th. If you have questions or want more info, please reach out to: Jen Lorenz 610-333-3011.

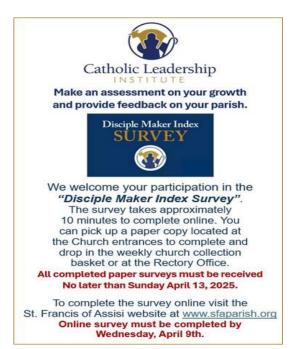


ALL ARE INVITED!!! Come let your heart be soothed and experience the peace and serenity of our Parish Holy Hour on Wednesdays at 7pm in the Church. If you have questions or wish to volunteer and help reach out, please contact Rob Longo (Rob@LiveVertical.org) or Luke LeTourneau (Luke@LiveVertical.org) or call 610-986-6660. For more info, visit: www.livevertical.org

BE ENCOURAGED: CATHOLIC SUPPORT FOR MENTAL HEALTH WEBSITE

www.archphila.org/support.

Resources to assist with healing, accompaniment and flourishing. The Archdiocese of Philadelphia has launched a website with resources to support those who are experiencing mental health struggles and those who love them. The website offers links to find Catholic clinicians, local crisis response phone numbers and ministries that can assist with recovery and healing. In addition, there are tools to help parishes, schools and institutions cultivate a deeper awareness of and responsiveness to these realities, suffered by so many. Visit the Be Encouraged website at www.archphila.org/support



GOD BLESS ALL WHO SERVE OUR COUNTRY



Michael Armellini Cale Amador John Michael Bartivic Christopher Baxter Jonathan Butterfield Colin Butler Davidson Cox Thomas Cresta Anthony DelVecchio Timothy Drabyak Mike Froeter Owen Galligan Kevin Geiger Jon Hylton Jacob Johnson Aidan Jones Matthew Jones Matthew Kauffman Connor Lyons Dan Marchini Timothy McCanns Shawn McConaghy Bill McDermott Emma McDonald James McDonald Nicholas McDonald Michael McGarvey Francis McGrail Daniel McLee Nicholas Peranteau Stephen Peranteau Ronan Plummer Peter Ouinn Katherine Reider Patrick J. Ryan, Jr. Joseph Spence Jesse Stewart Sean Sweeney Chase Stewart Skip Turner Weston Haves

Let us pray for those who SERVE and PROTECT...

Dear Heavenly Father, we lift our sailors, soldiers, marines, airmen, coast guard and families into Your loving care. Protect our Nation from all that is evil. Guide our way through these difficult times. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

We salute the advertisers in our bulletin. This week we thank



Please consider using our advertisers' services and tell them you saw their ad in our bulletin.

ANNUAL FRANCISCAN NIGHT FUNDRAISER

The Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia invite you to join us for our Annual Franciscan Night Fundraiser! **Saturday, May 3, 6-10PM** at Neumann University, Thomas Bruder Life Center. Please visit the link below for more details and online ticketing. We look forward to celebrating with you!

Franciscan Night Information

YEAR-END GIVING STATEMENTS

Requests for Year-End Financial Giving Statements can be submitted online through the St. Francis of Assisi website:

www.sfaparish.org

If you contribute electronically, you can also obtain your Contribution Report through your Parish Giving Account. You can also use the form below to make your request.



Request for Year-End Financial Statement
If you would like a statement of your yearly
contributions for tax purposes, please print
and complete this request form.
Either mail it to or drop it off at the Rectory,
or place it in the collection basket.

Name:	-	
Address:	li (a	
Phone #:		
	For Pick-Up	Please Mail to me
uestions, ple	ease call Joan Foga	arty (Rectory) 610-543-0848 ext 11

SACRED HEART CHURCH, CLIFTON HEIGHTS

PIEROGI SALE (Pierogi is a case of dough filled with a savory potato and cheese filling and cooked by boiling and then pan frying). Made at St. Stephen's Church Hall, 199 W. Baltimore Ave. (Baltimore Pike & Church St), Clifton Heights, March 31 to April 11, \$9.00 per dozen. Order by Calling Joanne Bidoli at 610-574-7077 or the Rectory at 610-623-0409 between 10AM and 3PM. Pick up times at St. Stephen's Church Hall (pierogi must be ordered first). Weekdays Noon to 1:30PM or Special Evening Pickup Wednesday of both weeks 5:30 to 6:30PM.

<u>UNBOUND-FREEDOM IN CHRIST ONE DAY</u> <u>CONFERENCE</u> Saturday, April 12, 9AM-4:30PM.

What is Unbound? Are you struggling with the same sins, habits, and hang ups such as anger, resentment, or unforgiveness over and over again? Do you find yourself grappling to identify as the child of God that you are and receive the deep love God has for you? The Unbound One Day Conference provides a comprehensive overview of a gentle model of prayer based on the book, *Unbound* by Neal Lozano. Speakers: Matt Lozano and Neal Lozano. Church of St. Joseph, Aston/Degnan Hall, 3255 Concord Road, Aston, Pa 19015. Reg./more info: https://heartofthefather.com/

BONNER/PRENDIE CLASS OF 1975 50TH JOINT CLASS REUNION Saturday, November 1, 4-8PM at the Drexelbrook Catering and Event Center. If interested in attending, kindly reach out to Deb Cooper Richey at (610)804-6920 or email debbie cooperrichey 5 @ gmail.com.

(610)804-6920 or email debbie.cooperrichey95@gmail.com. RACHEL'S VINEYARD: Come to our Healing Weekend Retreat April 4-6, in Doylestown, PA, at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa. If you or someone you love has been suffering from the emotional and spiritual pains of an abortion, a Rachel's Vineyard retreat weekend can help – no matter how much time has passed. Rachel's Vineyard retreats bring healing and God's forgiveness to the trauma and darkness of abortion for those who are suffering from shame, guilt, or anger. Join us from April 4 through 6, for a safe, loving, and confidential weekend, and experience the healing power of God's infinite mercy. To register, or for more information, please call Evelyn at (215) 317-5752.

IHM Conference Center 401 S. Bryn Mawr Avenue, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

Conference Day: "What is Our Role in the Healing of the World?" Tuesday, April 8, 9:30am-12N.

Presenter: Sister Christine Koellhoffer, IHM Stipend: \$40 (includes breakfast lunch and Mass)

What is our role in the healing of the world? The prophet Isaiah tells us we are called to repair and restore what is broken (*Isaiah 58:12*). We begin with our own inner soul work and expand our reach to our neighbors in the global community in whom Jesus continues to suffer today. Through prayer, presentation, handouts for reflection, and times of stillness and conversation, we will bless what is in need of healing in ourselves and in our beautiful yet wounded world. Please join us for this Lenten day of reflection.

Movie With Meaning: "Breakthrough." Wednesday, April 9, 12:00 lunch; 1:00 movie. Stipend: \$20 (lunch). Tragedy strikes when Joyce Smith's adopted son, John, falls through the ice on a frozen lake in Missouri. Trapped underwater for more than 15 minutes, rescuers bring John back to the surface and rush him to the nearest hospital. While doctors fear the worst, the 14-year-old boy continues to fight for his life as Joyce, her husband and their pastor stay by his bedside and pray for a miracle.

Please register for these events by calling 610-581-0120 or emailing S. Marie at ihmconferencecenter@gmail.com

THE CALIX SOCIETY "A.A. restores your health and keeps you from an early grave. Calix saves your soul and puts you on the road to heaven." - William J. Montroy, a founder of the Calix Society. Are you in a 12-step recovery program? Do you have family or friends in recovery? Tell them about The Calix Society! We meet the last Saturday of every month at St. Francis of Assisi after the 4:00pm Mass in the Church Library/basement. For more information about the Calix Society please visit www.calixsociety.org. You can also contact Ken Johnston at 215-327-3236 or

ken@notsaintsyet.org. For more info about our meeting at SFA: please contact Luke LeTourneau at 610-986-6660.

EILEEN GEORGE PRAYER GROUP

Monthly on Sundays, Apr 13, May 11, Jun 15, Jul 13, Aug 10, Sept 14 from 2-3 PM. Join us for the Prayer Group in the spirit of Eileen George and her Meet the Father Ministry. We meet on a monthly basis to pray for specific intentions through Eileen's intercession, to study and reflect on her teachings, and to pray for her beatification & canonization. There will be Adoration, Confession and Benediction. Social to follow. For more information about Eileen, visit www.EileenGeorge.org. Location: Annunciation BVM Church, 401 Brookline Blvd., Havertown, PA. For More Info: Questions? Contact Jeanmarie Lorello at 610-547-7308 (phone or text).

PRAYER FOR THE 4TH WEEK OF LENT

Loving Creator of mine,

I feel the pace quicken; the time draw near. I am filled with joy as I move toward Easter and the promised reconciliation with You. Teach me to follow the example of Your Son, to be worthy of being called one of His people: a Christ-ian. Help me to live each day as He did turning hatred to love and conflict to peace. I await the new life with eagerness, faith and a deep gratitude. Amen.



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