

† † † **MASS INTENTIONS** † † †

Monday, March 11

8:00 AM For Margaret Mary Pero

Tuesday, March 12

8:00 AM + Jean Kolodziej
Req. by Catherine Errington

Wednesday, March 13

8:00 AM For Fredric Pero

Thursday, March 14

8:00 AM Members Of Our Faith Community

Friday, March 15

8:00 AM + Anthony Zegarowski
Req. by Bernard Zegarowski

Saturday, March 16

8:00 AM + Joseph Niemczyk
Req. by Mary Kochan
4:00 PM + Kevin McLaughlin
Req. by Donald Hiller

Sunday, March 17

8:30 AM + John Hines
Req. by Neighbors
11:00 AM + Patricia Booth
Req. by Richard Jones, Brother
6:00 PM + Rev. Joseph F. Magner

OUR FAITH COMMUNITY'S GIFT TO GOD

March 2/3, 2019

Attendance.....	454
Regular Offering.....	\$5,588
Maintenance Collection	\$140
Regular Offering same Sunday last year	\$6,151
February E-Giving Regular Offering.....	\$3,781
February E-Giving Maintenance Collection ...	\$1,135

From Fr. Ross: Please remember that I am very aware of all the sacrifices you make and that what you contribute I consider as your offering to the Lord and something very sacred. Thank you for the continued support and generosity you offer to your parish family. May God bless you always.

ENJOY THE CONVENIENCE OF ON-LINE GIVING



St. Francis of Assisi Parish wants to remind you that we offer electronic giving as a way to automate your regular weekly offering. Credit & Debit Card Giving allows you to make offerings automatically on a pre-determined schedule using a credit or debit card. Online Giving allows you to go to the parish website at any time to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your online donation history. We encourage you to look into our electronic giving program. It takes just a few minutes to set up a recurring giving plan. Visit the church website and locate the donation link.

THE VIGIL CANDLE

The Lights shine in the Friary for Kylon Radford (3 years old), for healing from cancer. (If you would like to make a donation (\$10) for a vigil candle in memory of someone (living or deceased) or for a special intention, please fill out the form below. It can be returned via the mail, parish office or placed in the collection basket at Mass. Each week there is one candle available for the Church and two for the Friary.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Intention _____

Friary

Church

Checks should be made payable to *St. Francis Church*



PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL

Elaine B., Elizabeth Bestpitch, Patricia Brown, George Bussi, Edward Cieslica, Jeffrey Colarz, Gerald Davis, MaryAnn DuKane, Patricia Ehms, Raymond Franks, Eric G., Jeffrey Garringer, Carol Gasinski, Amanda Hart, Nicholas Horwood, Lillian Hosie, Robert & Elaine Keating, John Kelly, John L., Charles Leavell, Alex Lissitschenko, Christine Lopinski, Diana Moore, Shirley Moore, Linda Moretuzzo, Meghan Quinn, Mary Ann Rawski, Jo Ann Scalzi, Jack Schultz, Richard Smith, Debbie Spino, Terry Swift, Ed Szarowicz, Cynthia Towne, Virginia Walentynowicz, Christopher Winkleman, Christopher Young, and all others who are ill or suffering. *It is very important that the Parish Office be notified if a family member is in the hospital.* By law, the hospitals may no longer call the Church to inform us when someone is hospitalized. Please contact Sharon Gruver, our parish secretary, if you would like to place the name of someone on our *Sick List*. Unless we are notified otherwise, the names will remain on the list for one month.

IF YOU OR A LOVED ONE IS ILL

If you or someone in your family is ill, homebound, in the hospital or a nursing home, please let us know. We have members of our Faith Community who would love to visit and bring Holy Communion. However, we need you to call us. Too often we find out after the fact. We also have a Monthly Newsletter that we send out to those who cannot join us at church. Again, please give us a call!



ICON OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

St. Francis Parish has a traveling Icon of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The Altar Rosary Society members have been taking it home each week to pray for Sanctity of Life issues. *This week the Icon is in the home of Trudy Beil.*



CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

- March 11: **Altar & Rosary Society Pierogi Making**–9:00 AM (Kitchen)
Cub Scouts Parent / Committee Meeting–6:30 PM (Gym)
Venturing Crew–6:30 PM (Meeting Room 2)
Buildings & Finance Committee Meeting–7:00 PM (Parish Office Meeting Room)
Boy Scouts Meeting–7:30 PM (Gym)
- March 12: **Altar & Rosary Society Meeting**–1:00 PM (Meeting Room 1)
St. Anthony Devotions–7:00 PM (Church)
- March 13: **Altar & Rosary Society Pierogi Making**–9:00 AM / **Selling**–10:00 AM (Kitchen)
Prayer Shawl Ministry–10:30 AM (Library)
Jr. Choir Practice–6:00 PM (Church)
Adult Sacramental Program (RCIA)–7:00 PM (Meeting Room 1)
Bingo–7:30 PM (Social Center)
- March 14: **Yoga**–10:00 AM (Meeting Room 1)
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Meeting–5:30 PM (Meeting Room 1)
St. Joseph's Table Set Up–6:30 PM (Gym)
Civil Air Patrol–7:00 PM (Gym, Meeting Room 1)
- March 15: **Sanctity of Life Ministry**–8:00 AM (Church)
Altar & Rosary Society Pierogi Making–9:00 AM (Kitchen)
St. Joseph's Table–6:00 PM (Gym)
Stations of the Cross–7:00 PM (Church)
- March 16: **Altar & Rosary Society Pierogi Making**–9:00 AM / **Selling**–10:00 AM (Kitchen)
Lottery Ticket Sales–After 4:00 PM Mass
- March 17: **Lottery Ticket Sales**–After All Masses
Faith Formation 3rd Grade Parent/Student Class and Mass–9:30 AM (Gym, Meeting Room 1, Church)
Jr. Choir Sings at 11:00 AM Mass–(Church)



HOLY NAME BINGO

Wednesdays at 7:30 PM

Up to \$2,500 Progressive

Food, snacks & drinks available

Join us if you are able. Bring a friend or two



MONTHLY ST. ANTHONY DEVOTIONS



A reminder that we have our monthly devotions to St. Anthony Tuesday, March 12 at 7:00 PM. All are invited to attend. Come and refresh yourselves in the presence of the Lord and entrust your cares and concerns to our friend and brother, St. Anthony. This is a special opportunity during Lent.

PIEROGI SALES - SPRING SESSION

Homemade **PIEROGI** are now available for sale in the Social Center on **Wednesdays and Saturdays until April 13 or sold out**, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon. The three varieties, Farmers Cheese, Sauerkraut, and Potato & Cheddar are \$10.00 per dozen / \$5.00 per half dozen. Large orders must be ordered in advance by **March 13**. To place an order or for more information, please call Bernadette at 822-1599. Please note, sales will end on **April 13 or until sold out**. If you wish to volunteer in the pierogi kitchen you are most welcome!



LOTTERY TICKETS



Next week the Lottery Committee will be selling lottery tickets in our new gathering space. Please stop and buy a ticket or two and help support our parish renovation fund. A ticket is still only \$5.00!

GIRL SCOUT COOKIES!

Brownie Troop 30173 will be selling Girl Scout Cookies after all Masses the weekend of March 23/24. Cookies are \$4.00 a box until sold out. Cash only please.



ST. FRANCIS HIGH SCHOOL PRACTICE ENTRANCE, SCHOLARSHIP & PLACEMENT EXAM FOR 7TH GRADERS

On Saturday, March 30, 2019, St. Francis High School will offer a practice exam for all 7th grade boys. This practice exam is in preparation for the Entrance & Scholarship Exam which all boys in 8th grade must take to gain admission to St. Francis High School. For more information, please call 716-627-1200 ext. 582 or admissions@stfrancishigh.org.

A LENTEN RETREAT THE POWER & THE PASSION

Alice Camille (author, religious educator and retreat leader) presents a lenten reflection on March 18, 19 & 20 at 7:00 PM at The Church of the Annunciation / 7580 Clinton Street / Elma, New York 14059. She asks, "Can an affluent nation even pretend to be Christian? How can the most powerful people on the planet follow the Lord on the Cross?" More information can be found at www.annunciation.cc.

FINANCE AND BUILDINGS COMMITTEE



Our Finance and Buildings Committee will be meeting this Monday, March 11 at 7:00 PM in the Parish Office Meeting Room. The purpose of the Committee is to oversee our finances to insure that we are being good stewards with the blessings we have received.

AFTERNOON OF RECOLLECTION

Mark your calendars. We are planning an afternoon of reflection presented by Deacon Greg and Deacon Gary. It will be offered on Saturday, March 30, starting at 12:30 and finishing up with Mass at 4:00 PM. More info to follow.

EASTER CANDLE MEMORIAL



Every year we get a new Paschal (Easter) Candle which represents the new light and life that is now ours through the Resurrection of Jesus. It stands in our sanctuary throughout the year. We bless the new candle at our Easter Vigil. If you would like to make a offering in memory of a loved one, living or deceased, please call the parish office.

THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Please Join us for the Stations of the Cross Every Friday at 7 pm in the Church. If you'd like to get involved by helping lead the stations, please contact Fr. Ross at the Parish Office at 716-627-2710.

MARCH 15 – ST. JOSEPH’S TABLE

St. Joseph’s Day falls on March 19th each year. We celebrate this feast by hosting a St. Joseph’s Table with our faith community. The date is Friday, March 15 at 6:00 p.m. in the Social Center. All are welcome. Please bring a meatless dish to pass. A traditional St. Joseph’s dish or nontraditional is welcome. Join us for Stations of the Cross following the dinner at 7:00 p.m. in the church. Any questions contact our faith formation office at 627-3357 or sfareled@gmail.com.



CONFESSIONS DURING LENT



During Lent we are all encouraged to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, that is, to go to Confession. We have Confessions every Saturday from 3:00 to 3:30 PM and also before our daily Mass, Monday through Saturday. There will also be a Penance Service on Thursday April 4 at 7:00 PM. There will be several priests available to celebrate the Sacrament. We encourage all to partake of this very special gift. You won’t be disappointed!

PEACE HOUSE – NINE AND DINE

Please join us at St. Francis of Assisi Social Center on April 6, 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM for our very first *Nine and Dine*. Nine holes of mini-golf and an Italian dinner! Each hole will feature an alcoholic beverage and a tasty hors’ d’oeuvre. Italian dinner will be served at completion of your 9 holes, cafeteria style or take out! A small bar will also be available. Tickets will be available in early March for \$45 each so start gathering your group of 6 to 8 people and get ready to lock in your Tee-Time! Tee times will be available in 15 minute increments starting at 5:00 PM. Dinner only will be available for \$25 each. For more information please call The Buffalo Peace House at 627-9800.

THE VOICES OF MERCY

“THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS: A MUSICAL JOURNEY”



STATIONS of the CROSS

On Friday March 22nd, St Francis of Assisi parish will host St. Luke’s Voices of Mercy who will perform “The Stations of the Cross: A Musical Journey” at 7:00 pm in the church. This

original and powerfully unique interpretation of Jesus’ way to the Cross was written by Andrew Bernstein, a member of the group. We invite you and encourage you to bring a friend to join us in this musical meditation to reflect on and worship Jesus in gratitude for our salvation. What a great way to inspire our motivation to make this the best Lent ever!

BOTTLES FOR BABIES—“CHANGE A LIFE”



It’s that time of year again! Harvest House Baby Ministry Bottles are back again and we need your help to fill them! Bring one home and fill it up with coins, cash or even a check. they will need to be turned in on, or before Easter Sunday (April 21, 2019). Thank you for ALL you do to help provide basic necessities for mothers and their little ones.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES 2019 APPEAL

When there is nowhere else to turn, Catholic Charities is a beacon of hope and support for those most in need. Catholic Charities is ready to provide basic and emergency assistance whenever crisis strikes. Your Appeal gift helps keep this safety net in place for so many of your neighbors in need. With your donation you can help them find hope.

MAY HE REST IN PEACE

+ Charles Shaver was called home to the Lord and heaven last week. Our prayers and thoughts are with the family members at this time. May the Lord strengthen and comfort them with His peace.





The Serenity Prayer –And Then Some
(A Lenten Meditation)

God, grant me:

The serenity to accept the things I cannot change,

The courage to change the things I can, and

The wisdom to know the difference.

Lord, also help me to:

Live one day at a time;

Enjoy one moment at a time;

Accept hardship as the path to peace;

Take, as Jesus did, this world as it is,

Not as I would have it,

Trusting that You will make all things right

If I surrender to Your will,

That I may be reasonably happy in this life, and

Supremely happy with You forever in the next.



Lent