

THE BRIDGE



*With open arms
for all!
All are welcome!*

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH • 4700 LONG BEACH BOULEVARD, BRANT BEACH, NJ 08008



Photo by Canva.com

“When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, they took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.” (Luke 2:22)

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

DECEMBER 31, 2023

St. Francis of Assisi, 4700 Long Beach Blvd., Brant Beach, NJ

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS	READINGS	EVENTS
Saturday, December 30	(L) Living +Deceased 9:00 AM +Susan Jenova 3:30 - 4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM Feast of the Holy Family - Vigil +Tom Ackers	1 Jn 2:12-17 Lk 2:36-40 Gn. 15:1-6, 21:1-3; Heb. 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk. 2:22-40	
Sunday, December 31	Feast of the Holy Family 8:30 AM +Thomas Ackers +Edward Coyle +Paul Kelly 10:00 AM (L)+Stein & Kempinski Families +Norman David Cella 11:30AM +James Rieger +Helen MacDonald	Gn. 15:1-6, 21:1-3; Heb. 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk. 2:22-40	Live-Streaming 10:00 AM Mass www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi
Monday, January 1	10:00 AM Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God World Day of Prayer For Peace +Edward Pottichen	Nm. 6:22-27; Gal. 4:4-7; Lk. 2:16-21	
Tuesday, January 2	9:00 AM +Thomas Ackers	1 Jn. 2:22-28; Jn. 1:19-28	9:45 AM St. Anthony Novena
Wednesday, January 3	9:00 AM +Joseph F. Moeller, Sr. +Noreen Sullivan +Arthur D'Souza	1 Jn. 2:29-3:6; Jn. 1:29-34	10:00 AM Scripture Study, Room 102 10:30 AM Contemplative Living, Zoom 2:00 PM Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
Thursday, January 4	9:00 AM +Phyllis Dailey	1 Jn. 3:7-10; Jn. 1:35-42	
Friday, January 5	9:00 AM +Michael Scarlatelli	1 Jn. 3:11-21; Jn. 1:43-51	
Saturday, January 6	9:00 AM +Anne Dobbs 3:30 - 4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM Solemnity of the Epiphany - Vigil +Donald Eckloff +Bert Stahlberg	1 Jn. 5:5-13; Lk. 3:23-28; Is. 60:1-6; Eph. 3:2-3a,5-6; Mt. 2:1-12	
Sunday, January 7	Solemnity of the Epiphany 8:30 AM +Nicholas Ballinger +Jack F. Halsey 10:00 AM +Donald DeLotto +Tom Ackers 11:30 AM +John Haws +Lucille DeMaio	Is. 60:1-6; Eph. 3:2-3a,5-6; Mt. 2:1-12	Live-Streaming 10:00 AM Mass www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi

Emergency Information

1. Call the main office (609) 494-8861.
There will be a recording.
2. Check Facebook
www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi
St Francis of Assisi Parish for updates.

Mass Schedule

St. Francis of Assisi, Brant Beach

9:00 AM Daily Mass
Reconciliation: 3:30-4:30 PM
Saturday, 5:00 PM; Sunday, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30 AM
Live-Streaming Mass - Sundays 10:00 AM
www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi

St. Thomas of Villanova, Surf City - CLOSED for the Season

St. Thomas Aquinas, Beach Haven - CLOSED for the Season

St. Clare, Loveladies - CLOSED for the Season

Read our bulletin online at
www.stfrancisparishlbi.org

 Daily gospel reflections can be found on Facebook at:
www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi

 Follow St. Francis Parish on Instagram:
[StFrancisChurchLBI](https://www.instagram.com/StFrancisChurchLBI)

St. Francis is a sending Parish to St. Mary Academy
(609) 597-3800 or visit: www.stmaryknights.org

Parish Information - (609) 494-8813

Emergency Information: Available on our answering machine (609) 494-8861 and on the following website: schoolclosingsnj.com and facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi.

Evacuation Information: In the event of a hurricane, severe weather, or extreme high tides, please do not call the Parish Office for assistance and note that **none** of the parish buildings (churches, community center, residences or maintenance facilities) has been designated as an evacuation site. Evacuate as soon as you can, following the direction of local officials.

Parish Registration: The Parish Office is located on the second floor of St. Francis Community Center, 4700 Long Beach Blvd., Long Beach Twp., NJ. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The office is closed for lunch from 12:00 to 1:00 PM. Please notify the Parish Office as soon as possible if you are moving.

Baptism: The sacrament is celebrated three times a month at St. Francis Parish. Group Baptisms are the 2nd Saturday at 10:00 AM and the last Sunday at 12:45 PM each month at St. Francis Church in Brant Beach. Baptisms during Mass are celebrated on the 3rd Sunday of each month at the last Mass in each Church. Call the Parish Office for availability and requirements: (609) 494-8813 ext. 154 or 155.

Family Faith: For children in grades one through eight. Please call Judith Clayton at (609) 494-8813 ext. 153 for more information.

Marriage: In accordance with the Common Policy of the five Dioceses of New Jersey, arrangements must be made ONE YEAR in advance. Couples are required to attend Marriage Preparation classes. Weddings are performed on Friday or Saturday. Weddings are NOT performed on Sundays, the beach, Memorial Day, Fourth of July or Labor Day weekends.

Pastoral Visitations: Please notify the Parish Office if you or any of your loved ones are ill, homebound, in SOMC, nursing homes or rehabilitation centers.

Parish Office

Michele Beck, Director, Liturgy & Music
Fr. Scott Brookbank, OFM
Judith Clayton, Director, Family Faith Formation
Deacon Robert Cunningham
Fr. Kevin Daly, OFM
Fr. Francis DiSpigno, OFM, Pastor
Fr. John Frambes, OFM
Sr. Patricia McNiff, OSF
Fr. Andrew Reitz, OFM
Sr. Pat Klemm, OSF (in-residence)
Marie Maslanka, Parish Secretary
Parish Office - (609) 494-8813,
Monday - Friday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM (Closed for lunch 12:00 - 1:00 PM)
Family Faith Formation - (609) 494-8813 ext. 153

Parish Finance Council

Cecelia Fowler	Fr. Andrew Reitz, OFM
Fr. Francis Di Spigno, OFM	Jay Pojednic
Joe Hummel	Joe Mack
Joe Vaszily	Peter Williams
Stacey Kelsall, Comptroller	

Anyone who needs to contact the Parish staff or Finance Council can do so by visiting our website at: www.stfrancisparishlbi.org/contact

St. Francis Center

Community Center - (609) 494-8861
Children's Services - (609) 494-8861 ext. 114
Counseling Services - (609) 494-1554
Educational & Career Services - (609) 494-8861 ext. 407
Family Support Services - (609) 494-8861
Food Pantry - (833) 511-0760
Recreation & Aquatics - (609) 494-8861 ext. 105
Senior Services - (609) 494-8861 ext. 108 or 109

A Letter From The Pastor...



Fr. Francis Di Spigno, OFM,
Pastor

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
the Mother of God
Dec 31, 2023

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

To illustrate the importance of the family, Pope Francis had declared March 19, 2021 to June 26, 2022 to be the *Year of the Family*. In his encyclical, *Amoris Laetitia* [*The Joy of Love*] he wrote, "The family is the first school of human values." [274] It is in the family that we first learn everything! It is where we learn how to speak. It is where we learn who we are, what we believe and what we don't believe, and it is where we learn that we are loved and it is where we first love someone else. There is no greater school than the family. As we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family this weekend, and as we look forward to the year that is about to come, let us give thanks to God for the gift of our families and the gift of our family of faith. Pope Francis also reminded us in *Amoris Laetitia*, "No family drops down from heaven perfectly formed; families need constantly to grow and mature in the ability to love." [324] Perhaps we also need to pray for healing where there is division in our families, both biological as well as in our family of faith. May God inspire us to go beyond that which divides us and allow us to focus on that which unites us.

Let us also pray for the human family. For all of humanity, that we might come closer to the world where we do recognize each other as brothers and sisters and lay down our weapons that destroy, be they guns, bombs, or even our words, attitudes, and evil judgements. Let us pray that we will all be inspired by the Holy Spirit to be brother or sister to all of creation, God's creation, so to come closer to returning to Eden.

Let us look to the Holy Family and the strength and courage they had to live the lives that we all know was not easy and often painful. My we too live our lives with that same courage to love Christ into our world.

May the world soon know the peace of God's kingdom, and may we help to make it so.

On behalf of the entire Parish Staff, may you and your family have a blessed and peaceful New Year.

Fr. Francis Di Spigno, OFM
Pastor

Offertory Collection

This Week's Second Collection:
St. Francis Parish Ministries: Worship

Due to an early publishing deadline, collection totals will appear in the next bulletin.




(Online Giving totals are included in the above figures)

**** Thank you for your generosity! ****



St. Francis of Assisi Parish
Online Giving!
stfrancisparishlbi.org/donate



6.5 Million Diocesan Goal

Pledged: \$62,547.80 (63% of Goal)
Paid: \$62,473.80 (62% of Goal)
Total Donors: 280
Total Gifts: 316
Average Gift: \$197.94

Thank you for your support of the Diocese of Trenton. Please visit the stfrancislbi.org/annual-catholic-appeal for more information from Bishop O'Connell.

2023

Christmas Flower

REMEMBRANCE

SCANN ME



Memorialize or honor a family member or friend by making a donation toward the Christmas and Advent Flowers and art and environment items

Gospel Inspirations:



“The child grew and become strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.”

Within this briefest of summaries are decades of loving parenting – hard work undertaken in partnership with God.

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, help my family to find wisdom and delight in each other.



CHRISTMAS SEASON SCHEDULE

Feast of the Holy Family- December 30/31
 Saturday 5:00 PM & Sunday 8:30 AM, 10:00 AM, 11:30 AM

Mary, Mother of God/ World Day of Prayer for Peace- January 1st
 10:00 AM

The Epiphany of the Lord- January 6/7
 Saturday 5:00 PM & Sunday 8:30 AM, 10:00 AM, 11:30 AM

Family Faith

Judith Clayton, Director of Family Faith (Ext. 153)

jlclayton@stfrancislbi.org

Mary Lou Ligus, Administrative Assistant (Ext. 179)

Mary Lou McGurkin, Registration & Tuition Coordinator (Ext. 177)



Tuesday

January 9
 February 13
 March 19
 April 9
 May 1 - May Crowning -
 Closing Mass

Wednesday

January 10
 February 14
 March 20
 April 10
 May 1 - May Crowning -
 Closing Mass

Confirmation

January 16, 30 – 5:30 – 7:00 pm
 February 20, 27 – 5:30 – 7:00 pm
 March 2 – 1:00 – 6:00 pm
 Sacrament of Confirmation 12, 19, 26 TBD

Grades 1 to 3 – 4:45 – 5:30 pm
 4 to 5 – 5:45 – 6:45 pm
 6 5:45 – 7:15 pm
 7 7:00 – 8:30 pm



THE DIOCESE OF TRENTON is committed to the initiative outlined in the U.S. Bishop's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People and to its own policies and guidelines regarding the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors.

If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or if you know of someone who was, you can report that abuse through the diocesan ABUSE HOTLINE: 1-888-296-2965 or via email at abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org

The Diocese of Trenton reports any allegations of sexual abuse to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Anyone with an allegation is also encouraged to provide that information to local law enforcement authorities.

Franciscan Spiritual Center Presents:

Spiritual Direction



The "Direction" part of the term Spiritual Direction can be off-putting, even for us as directors. This process is not about one person telling the other what to do – "directing" them. Spiritual companionship or soul-friending might be a better term. "Spiritual Direction" has stuck for some reason, but as Thomas Keating advises: "It is not so much being told what to do as being encouraged to do what we know God and our conscience are asking us to do." A spiritual director has been trained to listen to the person they are with in collaboration with the Holy Spirit. Thus, one often sees a picture of three chairs to symbolize the process, one for the director, one for the seeker and one for the Spirit! One on one meetings with you can be in person, by video call or phone call. Like to know more? Contact one of the certified spiritual directors in the parish:

Anne Bock, (609) 204-3835 Kathy Egan, (215) 694-4651
Mary Lou Jacoby, (732) 995-6917 Pat Simmons, (609) 661-1361

An Invitation to Contemplative Living

Our times together invite us into prayerful reading and discussion of Scripture or other spiritual writing through Lectio Divina or "Divine Reading" and a period of silent prayer. We meet by *Zoom* on the first Wednesday of each month at 10:30 AM - write Kathy Egan (klegan.chaplain@gmail.com) for the link. On the second Saturday of the month we meet in person in the Senior Lounge of the Community Center at 9:45 AM when we also have a presentation. We always welcome new folks to join us!

Next sessions - Wednesday, **January 3**, 10:30 AM, Zoom
Saturday, **January 13**, 9:45 AM, Sr. Lounge

Men's Spirituality Group

The Men's Spirituality Group meets in the Senior Lunch Room on the third Saturday of each month from 10:00 - 11:00 AM. Seating is limited. Please contact Deacon Bob or Father Fran to reserve your place.

Next meeting: Saturday, **January 20**, 10:00 AM, Sr. Lunch Room.



21st Annual Men's Cornerstone Retreat
Friday March 8, 2024
Saturday March 9, 2024
Maris Stella Retreat Center
Brochures at Church Entrances

Praying the Rosary

St. Francis of Assisi Church Brant Beach
Monday through Saturday, 8:20 AM



Adult Faith Enrichment RCIA

A JOURNEY IN FAITH

RCIA is a journey of faith for any unbaptized individual seeking to follow Christ, any baptized person from another Christian community and any Baptized Catholic looking to complete the sacraments of initiation (Confirmation and/or First Communion).

Please call Fr. Andrew or Sr. Pat at the parish office (609-494-8861 ext. 157).

Next Session January 9

DVD and Discussion

"Amazes and Afraid - Scripture and Tradition with Monsignor Barron"

All are welcome...baptized or non-baptized...
believer or non-believer.

Meetings:

St. Francis Center unless otherwise noted.



Bible Talks After Mass

Tom Troyano will be doing brief monthly talks on the bible after the 9:00 AM Mass. **Next talk:** Wednesday, **January 10**, 9:30 AM, Brant Beach Church

Book Club

We will meet in person at St. Francis Center in the Knight Wing Conference Room, (Room 212) on the last Tuesday of the month from 1:30-2:30 PM. *Forty Autumns* by Nina Willner.

Next meeting: Tuesday, **January 30**, 1:30 PM, Room 212.

Men's Cornerstone Planning Meeting

Next meeting: Tuesday, **January 2**, 7:00 PM, Surf city Church Hall..

Scripture Study

Meets **bi-monthly on Wednesdays**, from 10:00-11:30 AM to learn, discuss and reflect on passages of the Sacred Scriptures. Call Tom Troyano at (732) 261-4721 or email: tomtroyano@comcast.net for more information. **Next meeting:** Wednesday, **January 3**, 10:00 AM, Room 102.

Survivors of Suicide

Meets the **2nd Thursday** of each month at 7:00 PM in the Knight Wing Conference Room (Room 212). Call Sr. Pat McNiff, osf at (609) 494-8813 for more info. **Next meeting:** Thursday, **January 11**, 7:00 PM, Room 212

Celiac Disease and Holy Eucharist



If you have Celiac disease and wish to receive Holy Eucharist, we now have low gluten hosts in all the churches. Please bring your own pyx [**host container**] to mass. If you forget your pyx, please tell the priest. We have some extras in the safe. Please see the priest before mass and he will provide you with a low gluten host. Complete directions are posted in the vesting sacristy.

Employment Opportunity

St. Francis Parish and Center Counseling Services

Positions: Full time Licensed Counselor and Full-time or Part-time Bilingual (Fluent English/Spanish) Licensed Counselor **Days:** Monday through Friday (Some evening hours required) Must complete 40-hour Confidential Sexual Violence Advocate Training (provided free of charge by the agency). On-site clinical supervision is provided. **Must have Current Professional License:** LSW, LAC, LPC or LCSW.

Children's Services-Teacher's Assistant

Seeking a person with a warm, nurturing, and friendly personality, be able to relate well with children and families. Be willing to fulfill his/her responsibilities in accordance with the Center's/ Children's Services Philosophy/Mission Statement. Prefer a background in early childhood education. (13-months to 5-years of age). First Aid & CPR Certified and/or Bi-Lingual in Spanish a plus. **Position:** Full-time (40 plus hours) and Part-time (29 hours) **Days:** Monday-Friday **Pay:** \$15 per hour

Recreation/Pool (Year round)

Position: Pool Lifeguard – Part time employment for an indoor pool and 2 seasonal outdoor pools. MUST currently possess Red Cross pool lifeguard certification, CPR/AED and First Aid Certification. **Days:** Monday-Friday, and/or weekend – flexible schedule **Pay:** \$14.13 per hour

Position: Swim Lesson Instructors Year-round part time employment for an indoor pool and 2 seasonal outdoor pools. Pool lifeguard certification, CPR/AED and First Aid Certification are not required but preferred. **Days/Hours:** Weekdays/weekends - Hours range from 8-29 per week. **Pay:** \$15 per hour

Family Support Services

Position: In-home Bilingual Therapist (fluent English/Spanish) Full time Position - Therapist will travel throughout Ocean County to conduct therapy sessions with DCP&P referred clients in home. Applicants must have valid driver's license and reliable transportation. **Must have Current Professional License:** LSW, LAC, LPC, or LCSW. Clinical supervision provided at no cost to the employee. **Days:** Monday through Friday- 35 hours per week.

Senior Services

Position: Full time Caseworkers (Outreach and Information Assistance Workers) – Position available at our Berkeley Satellite Office. Social work/caseworker experience preferred. Must have Phone/Communication, Computer & Organization skills. Must have valid driver license. Days/Hours: 40 hours a week- Monday-Friday Pay: \$15.13 per hour (Beginning Jan. 1st)

- **Background check and fingerprinting required for all employees 18 yrs. and older.
- *Full-time positions are offered Health Care, Paid time off (with additional earning for years of service), 16 Paid Holidays, Life Insurance, 403B (retirement plan) w/ company match, & more.
- *Part-time positions are offered Paid sick time, Paid Holidays (excluding seasonal/variable) and Employee Discounts.
- *We are a qualified employer for the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program (PSLF)

Please send resumes to abodine@stfrancisbi.org

St. Francis Center is an EOE/AA Employer

SPLENDORS OF OLD-WORLD EUROPE:
Featuring an Eight Day Danube River Cruise on board the Luxurious MS Amadeus Riva

12 DAYS: OCTOBER 13 - 24, 2024

Hosted by
FR. ANDREW REITZ, OFM

Optional Shore Excursion Package Available! Request Brochure for Details!

STARTING AT \$5399 FROM NEW YORK
(Including Government Taxes & Airline surcharges of \$550*)
Estimated as of August 25, 2023

FOR A BROCHURE WITH COMPLETE DETAILS, PLEASE CONTACT:
Fr. Andrew Reitz, OFM
St. Francis of Assisi Parish
4700 Long Beach Blvd.
Brant Beach, NJ 08008
Tel: (917) 275-5593
Email: areitz@stfrancisbi.org

Tour Features: Roundtrip airfare from New York, first class/select hotel on land portion, accommodations on the MS Amadeus Riva in handsomely appointed staterooms sharing in twin-bedded cabins, all meals on board the cruise and breakfast daily on land portion, free-flowing red & white regional wines, beer, and soft drinks with lunch and dinner onboard the cruise portion of the tour, comprehensive sightseeing by private motorcoach including services of professional English-speaking guides and much more!

NAWAS INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL, INC.

October 9, 2024

Sight and Sound Lancaster PA
"Daniel"



\$192 includes show, lunch, transportation, driver tip

Call: Cheryl Krzaczyk, 609-661-5229
or Mary Lou Ligus, 215-850-7809

**Seating is limited.
Reservations are now being accepted.**

SPECIAL EVENTS

APPLES RAFFLE



A chance to win one of three Apple brand products:

1st place prize - an Apple IPAD PRO

2nd place prize - an Apple Iwatch, Series 8

3rd place prize - a pair of Apple Air Pods Pro

Raffle tickets are on sale now at the Community Center

Front Desk, or download the order form online at

www.stfranciscenterlbi.org.

Only 1,500 tickets sold.

Drawing being held at the Center's Super Plunge event,

Saturday, **February 10, 2024**, 12:00pm.

Tickets are \$20 each

and payable by check, cash or credit card.

Family Support Services

Human Concerns Food Pantry Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Walk-ins are welcome!

The St. Francis Food Pantry has a variety of food options, personal hygiene products, and cleaning supplies available. Please ask about our Dairy-Free Milk alternatives, Gluten-Free or Vegan options, Baby Food, Formula, & Diapers.

**Spanish-speaking staff is available to translate.*

*Join our text message alert system to receive alerts about the food pantry and annual projects. **TO ENROLL TEXT***

"PANTRY" TO 833-511-0760** **carrier text message rates may apply

Donations needed for the Food Pantry:

- Personal Hygiene: Toilet paper, Shampoo, Bar Soap/Body Wash, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Feminine Products, Laundry Detergent**
- Canned Goods: Soup, Chicken, Vegetables, Beans, Spaghettios, Tomato Sauce, Oatmeal**

Donations for the Food Pantry can be left in the bins marked "donation" in the front of the Community Center. If you would like to make a monetary donation to the Food Pantry it can be made through our website: <http://stfranciscenterlbi.org/donate> via PayPal.

Family Support Services:

To learn more about our programs visit our website at

<http://stfranciscenterlbi.org>

- **Parenting & Anger Management Groups**
- **Auto Ownership**
- **Parents As Teachers**
- **Maintaining the Integrity of Spanish Speaking Families**

Did You Know??

Did you know the Front Desk sells approximately 6000 tickets each year? These tickets are for Parish and Community Center events, such as the Fish Fry dinner, Beefsteak Dinner, Spaghetti Dinner, Swimming under the Stars, and our Dakota and Elle Christmas Concert. And let's not forget about all those raffle tickets sold to our lucky patrons....Progressive 50/50, Car Raffle and our ongoing Apples for raffles. Tickets are on sale now for a chance to win an iPad Air, Apple Watch or Apple Air pods. The drawing will be held February 10, 2024 and at only \$20 per chance, they make awesome stocking stuffers! Currently, Dakota and Elle Christmas concert tickets are on sale at the Front Desk. Join us on Friday, December 15th in the Brant Beach Church Hall for a festive night, listening to some of your favorite seasonal tunes accompanied by a harmonious wine and cheese intermission. Cost is \$30.00 per person and all proceeds benefit Community Center programs, such as the Food Pantry, Senior Services, Counseling department and Family Support Services. We hope to see you there.



This holiday season, Chick-fil-A Manahawkin is partnering with **St. Francis Community Center** to ensure no family goes hungry during the holidays.

If you are interested in participating, consider purchasing Nugget Trays, Strip Trays, or Mac and Cheese trays. These will then be donated to the **St. Francis Food Pantry** in time for the holidays.

Scan the QR Code below and select "Catering." At checkout please put "Donation" as the guest name. We will take care of the rest. We appreciate all for helping us give back to our community during the holidays.



Children's Services

For information call ext. 114.



St. Francis Community Center's Preschool and Childcare are fully accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

www.naeyc.org/our-work-for-families.org. We are also a Grow NJ Kids 4 Star Program. www.grownjkids.gov.

Masks will be required for 2 years and up - they will be encouraged to wear a mask throughout the day.

Year-round Childcare for Children TODDLER & PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

Available Care 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM, 5 Days a Week

Full Day and Work Day

Toddlers: Ages 13 months to 2 1/2

Preschoolers: Ages 2 1/2 to 5

Counseling Service by appointment (609) 494-1554

Counseling Services offers trauma-informed, therapeutic sessions for individuals, couples, and families. Services are available in person or virtually and available: for adult and child victims of crime and sexual assault throughout Ocean County and are free of charge; for general mental health counseling on a sliding fee scale to residents of southern Ocean County (Lanoka Harbor and South) and support groups that are free of charge at our location in Brant Beach. For more information or to enroll in services, please contact us at: 609-494-1554. Monday 9am-5pm, Tuesday through Thursday 9am-9pm, and Friday 9am-5pm.

Recreation & Aquatics

For info. please call ext. 105. Visit the **Fall/Winter Brochure** online at www.stfranciscenterlbi.org or pick up a Brochure at the Center lobby.

**SESSION III
REGISTRATION
ONGOING**

**AQUA AEROBICS
AQUA BOOTCAMP
ADULT YOGA
KIDS TENNIS**

Please Call for Class Availability

Senior Services

For information call ext. 108 or 109.



Information and Assistance, Telephone Reassurance Calls, Caregiver Assistance Options Counseling: Application Assistance for PAAD (Pharmaceutical Assistance for the Aged and Disabled), Meals on Wheels, SHIP Counseling (State Health Insurance Program), Energy Assistance, JACC (Jersey Assistance for Community Caregivers) and many more. Socialization, Recreation, and Exercise programs are available - please call for availability.

The LBI Health Department is doing
Blood Pressure Screenings
the **second Tuesday of each Month**
from 11:00 am - 11:30 am

in the Community Center Senior Lounge. Please call 609-494-8861 ext. 111 for more information.



Educational & Career Services

For information call 732-281-8653

Introducing the 23-24 FY Senior Employment Assistance Program (SEA) for Ocean County residents ages 55 & up. Whether impacted by COVID-19 or seeking to enhance skills for reentry into the workforce, the SEA Program breaks down age-related barriers. Our mission is to empower seniors by creating an inclusive environment, redefining the narrative around senior employment. We provide tailored support, skill development, and personalized career guidance, fostering a community that values the expertise seniors bring. Services include soft/hard skills assistance, on-the-job training, resume building, tech & career training, community resource linkages, and counseling. Join us in shaping a future where age is a source of strength and unmatched value.

Cultural Competency Statement

The St. Francis Center recognizes a culturally diverse community and makes a commitment to the principles of multiculturalism as a means of understanding, accepting, valuing, and supporting cultural diversity. The term Multicultural is applied broadly to include issues of minority or marginalized status as it relates to race, ethnicity, culture, socioeconomic status, use of English as a second language, gender, sexual orientation, disability, religion, spirituality, and the elderly. The St. Francis Center proposes to develop programs and practices that assist staff, board members, and volunteers to recognize, accept, and affirm differences and similarities among people and provide services that are supportive and inclusive of all members of the community.

Declaración de Capacidad

El Centro St. Francis reconoce una comunidad culturalmente diversa y hace un compromiso con los principios de multiculturalismo como un medio para entender, aceptar, valorar y apoyar la diversidad cultural. El término Multicultural se aplica ampliamente para incluir asuntos de minorías o estado de marginalización con respecto a raza, etnicidad, cultura, estado socioeconómico, uso del inglés como segundo idioma, género, orientación sexual, discapacidad, religión, espiritualidad y vejez. El Centro St. Francis propone desarrollar programas y prácticas que ayuden al personal, miembros de la junta directiva y voluntarios a reconocer, aceptar y afirmar las diferencias y similitudes entre la gente así como proveer servicios que apoyen e incluyan a todos los miembros de la comunidad.

Fundraiser for St. Francis Community Center!

We now have blue Recycle America bins located:

St. Francis Community Center

4700 Long Beach Blvd., Brant Beach

St. Thomas Aquinas Church

2nd & Atlantic Ave., Beach Haven

St. Clare Church

56 St. & Long Beach Blvd., Loveladies



These bins can be filled with clothes, purses, shoes, bedding and pillows. Recycle America will collect the items and redistribute them to those in need. In turn, this is a Fundraising opportunity for us – we receive a percentage of every pound collected.

Community Bulletin Board

Coastal Volunteers in Medicine

730 Lacey Rd., Suite G-6, Forked River, NJ 08731

Coastal VIM provides FREE, routine, non-emergent primary healthcare to those who qualify. Services are provided through licensed volunteer clinicians and support staff following a "Culture of Caring" model.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. Have no health insurance
2. Live in Ocean County
3. Contact us for family income limits 730 Lacey Road, Suite G6, Forked River, NJ 08731 (609) 384-0102

coastalvim.org

Appointments are required

Soroptimist Clothes Closet

Stafford Community Center, 25 Pine St., Manahawkin

The Soroptimist Clothes Closet is open every Saturday, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM (except holiday weekends) and the first and third Wednesday of each month from 4:00-6:00 PM. We are currently not taking any clothing donations. We offer free clothing to women in need. Vouchers are available at food pantries, churches, Stafford Community Center at the door. For further info call Madelyn. 609-276-3308.

St. Mary Academy

400 Doc Cramer Blvd., Manahawkin

St. Mary Academy, the place where children learn, grow, love, and serve continues to accept applications for the 2023-2024 school year for children in grades PRE-K-8th. For more information or to schedule a private tour, contact school principal, Lizanne Coyne at 609-597-3800.

Get Updates on Closings sent directly to your phone:

1. Go to Rainedout.com
2. Search St. Francis Center, LBICC, INC.
3. Opt-in to your organization
4. Validate your phone number

Bugbee-Riggs Funeral Home LLC

1119 Long Beach Blvd (Corner of 12th St.)
Ship Bottom, NJ 08008

**Cremation Services
& Traditional Burials**

Family Owned & Operated For 3 Generations

609-494-2565

Robert C. Riggs, Jr.
Manager, NJ Lic. No. 4631

www.RiggsFuneralHome.com

advocare | Stafford Orthopedics

Here For You Since 1975

Samuel E. Epstein, DO Board Certified Orthopedic Surgery
Judy Kerlin, APN Board Certified ANCC
Eric S. Baskin, DPM Fellow, American College of Foot & Ankle Surgeons

CONVENIENTLY LOCATED BEHIND SOUTHERN OCEAN MEDICAL CENTER
~ Accepting Most Insurances & Medicare ~

advocarestaffordortho.com • 609-597-6092
facebook.com/AdvocareStaffordOrthopedics
1168 BEACON AVENUE • MANAHAWKIN, NJ 08050

Serving Mercer County · Long Beach Island
DON MORGANTE HANDYMAN
609-586-8239
Hamilton Square · NJ NJ Lic. #13VH03272200

Island Kitchen & Bath
Owned & Operated by
TRI COUNTY BUILDING SUPPLIES INC.
609-494-5990
209 NORTH LONG BEACH BOULEVARD • SURF CITY



Live Life With Passion!

Mary Ann O'Shea, CRS, ABR, GRI
Broker/Salesperson

W: 609-492-1145 x1026 • C: 609-713-4164

listwithmaryann@lbihomevalues.com

www.lbihomevalues.com

RE/MAX
At Barnegat Bay
2001 Long Beach Boulevard
Ship Bottom, NJ 08008



WHERE OUTDOOR
LIVING BEGINS

- Hardscaping • Pools
- Planting • Lighting
- Construction • Design



mylandvisions.com | 609-908-0619 | landvisionsnj@gmail.com

Please Support Our
ADVERTISERS
They Support Our Parish

LIC #13VH09318500 **609-661-8959**
All Shore Garage Doors
& Property Management LLC
Door Repairs
Openers & Installations
★ ★ ★ FREE SERVICE CALL WITH ANY REPAIR ★ ★ ★

FURR-GET ABOUT IT
LEAVE YOUR GROOMING WORRIES BEHIND
609.242.5893
145 N. Main St. • Manahawkin, NJ 08050
Instagram: Furrget.aboutit

CAUSEWAY GLASS CO.
Glass Replacement Home & Auto
Complete Aluminum Service
297 W. 8th St. • 494-1652
Ship Bottom, New Jersey

WILLIAM R. BUDD
Premium Carpentry Services

RENOVATIONS
REMODELING
REPAIRS

609-296-1586

Fully Insured License #13VH04849400

ISLAND MEDICAL
PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION
James N. Suddeth, M.D. • Harry L. Larkin, M.D. • Paul W. Prosperti, D.O.
Diplomates of the American Board of Family Medicine
1812 Long Beach Blvd., Ship Bottom, NJ 08008 609-494-2323

**FENCING
&
RAILING**



Surf City Office
609-342-0973
400 Long Beach Boulevard
progressivefenceandrail.com

★★ **LBJ Best HVAC Company** ★★

AIR TECHNICAL SERVICES
HEATING • COOLING
PLUMBING & ELECTRICAL
Est 1999

609-494-1400
JOHN TAYLOR • LIC#9721
www.AIRTECHNJ.com
Master HVAC Lic. #5174 | Master Plumbing Lic. #1253

A/C TUNE-UP SPECIAL \$99⁹⁵ W/Ad

A Trusted Name in Funeral Care for Three Generations

POLHEMUS CREMATION SERVICES
Professional & Affordable Cremation Funerals

RICHARD M. POLHEMUS
Owner/Manager • NJ Lic. No. 4000
203 Main Street • West Creek NJ 08092
Convenient In-Home Appointments
609-294-8000

Memorial Services • Advance Planning
www.polhemuscremations.com



THE HUT DESIGN ■ INSTALLATION MAINTENANCE
HUT'S LANDSCAPE SERVICES LLC
609.698.0585
CALLTHEHUT4LANDSCAPING.COM
TOPSOIL MULCH • SOD TREES & SHRUBS PRUNING STONE & MUCH MORE
SPRING CLEAN UP • FALL CLEAN UP
LANDSCAPE DESIGN & INSTALLATION
PAVER DESIGN & INSTALLATION
DESIGNING OUTDOOR LIVING SPACES SINCE 1997

ISLAND HOME SERVICES, LLC
Call/text Dani 609-204-5866
Vacation Home Cleanings and Changeovers
Bed Making / Linens
Home Watch / Maintenance
Handyman Services / Emergency Calls
Vent / Air Filter Replacement Service
- Insured -

ADDITIONS • DECKS • ROOFING SIDING • KITCHENS • BATHROOMS ADD-A-LEVELS • BASEMENTS
Remodeling Network, LLC
www.remodelingnetworkllc.com
NJ License #13VH11195900
471 Route 9 West Creek
866-934-3577

TARGET INTERVENTIONS
SPECIAL EDUCATION CONSULTING
FAMILY LIFE COACHING
www.targetinterventions.com
609.848.4958

Private In-Home Therapy Service Specializing in Neurological Disorder
ALLEN CAYANAN, OTR/L
NJ License # 46TR00018400
COMPLIMENTARY SESSION / CONSULT
609.515.2945
ALCAY03@aol.com

HANDYMAN SERVICES
 ~No Job Too Small~ **BY GIO**
 STORM DOOR INSTALLATION & REPAIR
 Call **609-661-2313**

"LBI'S FAVORITE PIZZA SINCE 1980"
PANZONE'S
 BEACH HAVEN • SURF CITY

THOS L. SHINN

FUNERAL HOME

10 HILLIARD DRIVE • MANAHAWKIN, NJ 08050 • 609-597-7740

Dedicated to improving the quality of life in the community we serve.

~Affordable Cremation Services Offered~

Mark C. DeMeno, Manager, NJ Lic. No. 4554
 Francis A. Hoyer, Funeral Director, NJ Lic. No. 4262
ShinnFuneralHome.com



WALT DOMBROWSKI
 Parishioner • Realtor®
 direct: 609.618.9800

- Specializing in vacation and second homes on LBI.
- 500+ Transactions in the 20 years plus.
- Mention this ad and I will donate **30%** of my commission to St. Francis parish or a charity of your choice.

BEACH HOUSE REALTY LLC
 256 W. 9th Street
 Ship Bottom, NJ 08008
 (609) 494-2800

www.SoldOnLBI.com

FLOATING DOCKS **RESHEET & REPAIR**
DOCK LIGHTS **DOCKS & PIERS**
BULKHEADS **BOATLIFTS**



SHORE BULKHEADING & DOCKS
609.713.0850 NJLIC# 13VH10968100

Family owned and operated since 1971.
BARLOW

 DEDICATED SERVICE | HONEST PRICING | EVERYDAY



609.597.4700 | 445 Route 72 East | Manahawkin, NJ | barlowbuickgmc.com

MARINEMAX SHIP BOTTOM

 MarineMax.com
 (609)-494-2162

St. Mary's Cemetery

A Garden of Abiding Peace
 Serving the Catholic Faith

• MAUSOLEUM • CRYPTS • NICHES • GARDEN LOTS

PRE NEED COUNSELING
 Evening & Weekend Appointments

Office: 283 Beachview Ave.
 Manahawkin

(609) 597-8289

WALLY'S
 breakfast • lunch • dinner
OPEN DAILY IN SURF CITY!

Visit our website & Social Media for our Lunch & Early Bird Specials

609.494.1667 | WALLYSLBI.COM | @WALLYS_LBI

A Whole New Level of POST ACUTE CARE!

SEACREST
 rehabilitation & healthcare center
 1001 Center Street
 Little Egg Harbor Twp.
 Tel: (609) 296-9292
seacrestrehabhc.com

Seamstress for all your sewing needs
Fabric Works Custom Designs by Maria

Home Decor • Alterations for All Occasions
 Childrens Formal Wear • Heirloom Sewing: Christening and Communion Dresses Beautifully Made from Mom or Grandma's Wedding Gown!

By Appointment Only ~ Please call Maria Maruzza
862.686.9245 Barnegat, NJ 08005

READY.GOV
 Don't be afraid...Be Ready


ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT WILDFIRES

DOCKSIDE DINER
 SINCE 1955 Open Year Round
 TAKE OUT & DELIVERY RESIDENT, FIRST RESPONDER, MILITARY & VETERAN DISCOUNTS
 SPRAY BEACH, NJ

609-492-8466

(CLOSED TUES & WED) **OPEN THURS-MON. 7AM-9PM**

SERVING DELICIOUS BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNERS AT AFFORDABLE PRICES & BYOB!!!

2404 LONG BEACH BOULEVARD • NORTH BEACH HAVEN, NJ 08008
docksidelbi.com @docksidedinerlbi

GARABEDIAN REALTY GROUP **GARABEDIAN BUILDING COMPANY**

Defining Representation. Maximizing Value.

 **Matthew Garabedian**
 Broker / Builder
 201-376-5552

For All Your Brokerage & Building Needs!
 609-494-8400 garabedianrealtygroup.com

TECHNO SOUND & VIDEO
 Audio • Video • Control
 609.607.7230
 608 Long Beach Blvd • Surf City, NJ
technosoundandvideo@gmail.com
 Fully Insured • HIC #13VH06976400
TechnoSoundandVideo.com

Maxwell - Tobie

Funeral Home & Cremation Service, LLC

Mark L. Tobie, Manager, N.J. Lic. No. 4568
 573 Mill Creek Road, Manahawkin (609) 597-4411
www.MaxwellTobieFH.com

QUALITY CONCRETE WORK

POSCH CONCRETE CO.
 FOUNDATIONS • GARAGES
 SIDEWALKS • DRIVEWAYS

609-494-6566
poschconcrete.com
poschconcrete@gmail.com

Serving LBI & vicinity since 1995

Monmouth Ocean Educational Services Commission

Join Our Team!

is a public, non-profit organization providing educational programs and services to school districts throughout the state of New Jersey

Visit moesc.org for more information

MOESC

CENTURY 21
 Action Plus Realty

555 Lacey Rd • Forked River, NJ 08731
 Cell: 732-539-2161
 Office: 800-299-2129
www.actionplusrealty.com

 **Noreen Polo**
 Realtor-Associate
npolo@actionplusrealty.com

Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated

HOME DECOR

Gifted

Jewelry ~ Clothing ~ Accessories
609.342.0219

BY THE SEA

Gifts for all occasions, including religious gifts for Baptisms, Communion and Inspiration.

6115 LONG BEACH BOULEVARD • SUITE 2 • BRANT BEACH, NJ 08008

WEBSITE: WWW.GIFTEDBYTHESEA.COM

LBI TABLE

Breakfast Lunch Dinner

609-207-6773

OPEN 7 DAYS: 8:00 AM - 2:30 PM
THU / FRI / SAT: 4:00 - 8:00 PM

www.lbitable.com

Directly across from Woodies!
502 LONG BEACH BLVD • SHIP BOTTOM

ceramicpros Unlimited

Ann Marie Kavanagh
Ceramic Coatings
Fully Insured / REG #13VH09575600
ceramicprosunlimited.com
609.892.2885
Barneget Light, NJ 08006

Rust, Corrosion Staining Protection Interior / Exterior

- Protect against rust on grills & outdoor kitchens
- Protect against staining & etching on countertops
- Protect against staining & soap scum on shower glass doors

LBI Dream Makers

Rental and Concierge Services
"YOUR WORRY-FREE VACATION IS OUR BUSINESS"

SERVING LBI YEAR ROUND LINENS • BEACH EQUIPMENT
BABY GEAR • BIKES & More

17th & Central Ave., Barneget Light • 888-DREAMKR
LBIDreamMakers.com • info@LBIDreamMakers.com

IKM INSURANCE AGENCY

IKMINSURANCE.COM
2 E. 79th St.
Harvey Cedars, NJ 08008
609.494.9200

609-494-4441 OFFICE 609-709-1650 CELL

J. Nelke ROOFING

JON NELKE
CONT. #13VH02451600

816 LONG BEACH BLVD., STE. 6 • SHIP BOTTOM, NJ 08008

STONE • GRADING • PAVERS

Upper River Property Services
NJ Hic #13VH08305000
609.296.7777
UPPERRIVERPSNJ.COM

REYNOLDS GARDEN SHOP

201 East Bay Ave. Manahawkin
ReynoldsGardenShop.com
609.597.6099

Safe Harbor Homecare

In Home Care • Light Housekeeping
Errands • Personal Care • Meal Prep

364 N. Main St., Ste 6 • Manahawkin, NJ 08050
609-549-6435
SafeHarborHomecares.com

MEZZINA AGENCY LLC

Stephen Dolphin
Sales Associate
Mobile: 609-276-9855
Office: 609-494-9495
stevedolphin27@gmail.com
4008 Long Beach Blvd., Brant Beach, NJ 08008

BUYING OR SELLING ON LBI?

Melinda Morrow
REALTOR®
Direct 609-937-9471
Office 609-207-7297
melinda@lbinjhomes.com

Better Homes
MURPHY & CO.
1813 Long Beach Blvd,
N. Beach Haven, NJ 08008

MURPHY'S Marketplace

FAMILY MARKET & SPIRIT SHOP
Custom Cut "Certified Angus Beef"
Gourmet Service Deli Department
Quality Hand-Sliced Deli Meats & Cheeses
Delicious Store-Made Salads

FULL SERVICE "ONE STOP" SHOPPING
FULL SELECTION BEST QUALITY
BEER • WINE • LIQUOR FARM FRESH PRODUCE

9 SOUTH BAY AVENUE • BEACH HAVEN, NJ • 492-5100

JOSEPH HANDYMAN SERVICES LLC

Exterior / Interior Painting
Drywall Repair
Small & Large Household Repair
732-791-8790
FULLY INSURED LIC # 13VH12618900 LICENSED

609.242.3567 F: 609.242.3330

ALL ABOUT SMILES DENTISTRY

LouAnn B. Van Liew, D.M.D.
615 Lacey Road, Suite 5 | Forked River, NJ 08731
allaboutsmilesdentistry.net

Atlantic Roofing and Siding

609.978.8700
atlanticroofingandsiding.net
NJ Lic. #13VH00496100

ELDER LAW ATTORNEY KATHLEEN A. SHERIDAN, ESQ.

Member: National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys
And Academy of Special Needs Planners

- Planning For Long Term Care - Nursing Homes and Assisted Living
- Wills, Living Wills, Powers of Attorney & Trusts
- Medicaid Planning
- Estate Planning & Estate Administration
- Residential & Commercial Real Estate

609-361-8300
382 West 9th Street • Suite 6
Ship Bottom, NJ 08008

oceancountyelderlaw.com

Ocean Medical M.D., P.A.

FAMILY PHYSICIANS
Anthony J. Picaro, MD, FAAFP, ABFP • Todd Schmolli, DO, AOBFP
Cynthia Schmolli, DO, AOBFP
3003 Long Beach Boulevard, Beach Haven Gardens 492-0900

JERSEA REALTY

609-492-1666

OPEN YEAR ROUND!

the Cheese Shoppe

FINE CHEESES • CHARCUTERIE BOARDS
GOURMET GROCERIES • GIFT BASKETS & MORE!

Quick hop on/off LBI
1800 Long Beach Blvd., Surf City, NJ 08008
609.494.4630 • www.lbicheese.com

CALLAN & MOELLER Construction

Service is Our Way of Business
609.492.1102

Dave's Appliance
2601 Long Beach Blvd.
Ship Bottom, NJ 08008
609-492-0189
lbiapplianceguys@gmail.com

FREE DELIVERY
with purchase of a
New Appliance!
and
50% off
Service Call!
with this ad

YOUR LONG BEACH ISLAND REAL ESTATE PARTNER

Patrick Pietrefesa
Contact Me Today!
ConnectWithPatrickP.com

SCAN THIS CODE TO START SEARCHING LISTINGS

NEW JERSEY REALTORS Circle of Excellence Sales Award®

G. ANDERSON AGENCY
Your LBI Real Estate Partner
12001 Long Beach Blvd.
Haven Beach, NJ 08008

Patrick Pietrefesa
Broker / Salesperson
609-312-1434 (cell)
Patrick@movingLBI.com

WALTERS HOMES ARCHITECTURE | REAL ESTATE

Visit our website to find out more about our "One Stop" Building Experience!
waltershomes.com

880 Mill Creek Road, Manahawkin, NJ • 609-597-6999

RENAISSANCE
PROFESSIONAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
609.339.4074
LONG BEACH ISLAND, NJ

We treat your home like it was our own.

- Renovations
- Handyman
- Home Watch and Much More

f yelp