

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: Fr. John Frambes, ofm

***“Arise! Shine, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.”
(Isaiah 60:1)***

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY

JANUARY 7, 2024

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

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS	READINGS	EVENTS
Saturday, January 6	(L) Living +Deceased 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
Monday, January 8	9:00 AM Feast of the Baptism of the Lord +Richard P. Doyle, <i>ofs</i>	Is. 42:1-4, 6-7; Mk. 1:7-11	
Tuesday, January 9	9:00 AM +Bill Kunz +Bryant Connelly	1 Sm. 1:9-20; Mk. 1:21-28	9:45 AM St. Anthony Novena 7:00 PM Men's Planning Mtg., Surf City
Wednesday, January 10	9:00 AM +Al Bates	1 Sm. 3:1-10, 19-20; Mk. 1:29-39	9:30 AM Bible Talk After Mass 2:00 PM Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
Thursday, January 11	9:00 AM +Michael Scarlatelli	1 Sm. 4:1-11; Mk. 1:40-45	7:00 PM Survivors of Suicide, Room 212
Friday, January 12	9:00 AM +John Callanan	1 Sm. 8:4-7, 16-22a; Mk. 2:1-12	
Saturday, January 13	9:00 AM +Paul Kelly 3:30 - 4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM +Marie Cooper +John Callanan +Anne Dobbs	1 Sm. 9:1-4, 17-19, 10-1; Mk. 2:13-17 1 Sm. 3:3b-10, 19; 1 Cor. 6:13c-15a, 17-20; Jn. 1:35-42	9:45 AM Contemplative Living, Zoom
Sunday, January 14	8:30 AM +Donna Weiss +Paul DeLuca 10:00 AM +Edward W. Shanley +Tom Ackers 11:30 AM +William Goodwin	1 Sm. 3:3b-10, 19; 1 Cor. 6:13c-15a, 17-20; Jn. 1:35-42	Live-Streaming 10:00 AM Mass www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlb

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

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**

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.

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.

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

Praying the Rosary

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



St. Anthony Novena

St. Francis of Assisi Church Brant Beach
Tuesdays after the 9:00 AM Daily Mass



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

St. Francis of Assisi Church Brant Beach
Wednesdays, 2:00 - 3:00 PM



Offertory Collection

This Week's First Collection:

Needed: \$25,000

This Week's Second Collection:

Parish Ministry - Utilities

Last Week's First Collection:

Collected: \$19,342

Needed: \$28,000

Last Week's Second Collection:

Worship Ministry

Collected: \$5,957

Last Week's Second Collection:

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

Collected: \$2,745

(Online Giving totals are included in the above figures)

** Thank you for your generosity! **



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



We are the
BODY
of
CHRIST
2023 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

6.5 Million Diocesan Goal

Pledged: \$62,977.80 (63% of Goal)

Paid: \$62,903.80 (63% of Goal)

Total Donors: 282

Total Gifts: 318

Average Gift: \$198.04

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.

Gospel Inspirations:

"They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh."

The foreigners came expecting a king and responded generously to the workings of God in humble places and with people foreign to them.

Help us, O Lord, like the Magi to respond generously when we encounter God in unlikely places.



ST. FRANCIS
**Liturgy &
Music**

CHRISTMAS SEASON SCHEDULE

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)

jclayton@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 - Saturday, **January 13**, 9:45 AM, Zoom

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.

What's Your New Year's Resolution?



Men's Cornerstone Retreat
March 8th & 9th

Brochures available at Church entrances

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. **Next meeting:** Tuesday, **January 30**, 1:15 PM, Room 212

Men's Cornerstone Planning Meeting

Next meeting: Tuesday, **January 9**, 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 17**, 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



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).

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

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:** \$15.13 beginning Jan 1st

Recreation/Pool (Year round)

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:** \$16 starting Jan 1st

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.

St Francis Parish and Center

Position: *Front Desk Supervisor* - Full-time 40 hours per week including benefits. Responsibilities include but are not limited to: Supervising and scheduling front desk staff, overseeing registration for Recreation/Aquatic classes. Handling billing and receiving of all revenue for the Children's Services department. Provide front desk receptionist coverage as needed and keep confidential the internal operations of the Parish and Center. Position requires a HS Diploma or GED, experience supervising staff and experience managing an office. You must be able to lift 30 lbs., have reliable transportation, have excellent communication skills, customer service skills and be proficient in using computer databases/programs. **Days/Hours:** Monday-Friday 8am-4pm, with flexible schedule for desk coverage. Must be available some evenings and weekends as needed.

****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) 275-6993
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 state-rooms 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.

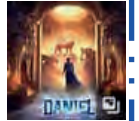
October 9, 2024

Sight and Sound Lancaster PA
"Daniel"

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

Call: Cheryl Krzaczek, 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.stfranciscenterbi.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.

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.

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, Deoderant, Toothpaste, Feminine Products, Laundry Detergent

Canned Goods:

Soup, Chicken, Vegetables, Beans, Spaghetios

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

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

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.



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.

ST FRANCIS COUNSELING SERVICE

JOURNEY THROUGH GRIEF

Join us for 8 weeks of a FREE and confidential support group available to residents of Ocean County.

Providing education and support for adults that are navigating the stages of grief.

To begin: Winter 2024

Open to ALL residents of Ocean County. Please contact Matthew Cronin or Harlie Lutz to register:
609-494-1554



Supported by the State of New Jersey Sexual Assault, Abuse and Rape Care (SAARC) Funds, administered by the Department of Children and Families

ST FRANCIS COUNSELING SERVICE

Surviving to Thriving

Join us for group counseling sessions that will provide a safe space for survivors of sexual abuse and assault.

To begin: Winter 2024
Location: St Francis Community Center

Empower yourself! Unlock the skills and tools necessary to move forward and thrive in this free and confidential 8-week support group.

Open to all residents of Ocean County. Please call Emily Miller to reserve your spot:
609-494-1554




Supported by the State of New Jersey Sexual Assault, Abuse and Rape Care (SAARC) Funds, administered by the Department of Children and Families

ST FRANCIS COUNSELING SERVICE

PARENTING AFTER

Join us for 8 weeks of FREE and confidential group counseling sessions with parents that are learning to navigate the world after their child has been sexually abused or assaulted.

Gain support, develop emotional coping skills, and learn ways to understand and manage posttrauma behaviors and emotions.

To begin: Winter 2024

Please contact Melanie Blair, LAC, to register:
609-494-1554




Supported by the State of New Jersey Sexual Assault, Abuse and Rape Care (SAARC) Funds, administered by the Department of Children and Families

THE SEA PROGRAM ST. FRANCIS COMMUNITY CENTER

SENIOR EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

WHY SHOULD YOU JOIN?

Program provided at NO cost to you!

Who is encouraged to join?
Ocean County Seniors 55+ looking to reenter the workforce or start a new career after retirement!

Reignite your career with our supportive services

One-on-one career guidance and support

Boost your confidence with interview preparation, resume building, career & technology training, and much more!

Program runs on Wednesdays & Thursdays beginning at 9:00 AM!

1258 Route 166
Stella Towne Center
Toms River, NJ, 08753

Call today to register!
732-281-8653



St. Francis Counseling Service


SEXUAL VIOLENCE ADVOCATE TRAINING

Are you an Ocean County resident who is interested in supporting survivors of sexual violence? Our no cost 40-hour training will certify you to advocate for people who have experienced sexual violence. Once trained, you will be on call to provide crisis intervention, educational information, and resources to survivors. All potential advocates encouraged to apply. Bilingual advocates needed.

1/29/2024 - 5/20/2024

Classes will be held at our St. Francis Toms River location:
1258 NJ-166, Toms River, N.J. 08753

To apply and schedule an interview please contact: Cheryl Fuller, MSW at cfuller@stfrancisbi.org or 609-494-1554



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.

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.

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
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