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

So they went and saw where Jesus was staying and they stayed with him that day.

It was about four in the afternoon.

John 1:39

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS	READINGS	EVENTS
Saturday, January 13	(L) Living +Deceased 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	
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
Monday, January 15	9:00 AM +Richard Pottichen +Irene D'Souza	1 Sm. 15:16-23; Mk. 2:18-23	Parish and Center is CLOSED
Tuesday, January 16	9:00 AM +Joseph DeMeo	1 Cor. 4:9-13; Mt. 10:16-22	9:45 AM St. Anthony Novena 5:15 PM Dinner with Friends, Church Hall 7:00 PM Men's Planning Mtg., Surf City
Wednesday, January 17	9:00 AM +John Truffa	1 Sm. 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; Mk. 3:1-6	10:00 AM Scripture Study, Room 102 2:00 PM Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
Thursday, January 18	9:00 AM +Richard Bromer +Anne Dobbs	1 Sm. 18:6-9, 19:1-7; Mk. 3:7-12	7:00 PM Survivors of Suicide, Room 212
Friday, January 19	9:00 AM +Nancy Venturo +Joseph MacCrory	1 Sm. 24:3-21; Mk. 3:13-19	11:00 AM OA, Room 102
Saturday, January 20	9:00 AM +Marie Cataldo 3:30 - 4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM +Ralph Polifroni	II Sm. 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27; Mk. 3:20-21 Jon 3:1-5, 10: 1 Cor. 7:29-31; Mk. 1:14-20	10:00 AM Men's Spirituality, Sr. Lunch Room
Sunday, January 21	8:30 AM +Alice D. Yohn +Maria Rogers 10:00 AM +Helen Foley +Judith Ellen Sharkey 11:30 AM +Alice "Mimi" McMahon	Jon 3:1-5, 10: 1 Cor. 7:29-31; Mk. 1:14-20	Live-Streaming 10:00 AM Mass www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlb

Emergency Information

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.

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

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

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity January 18 - 25



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 - $\ensuremath{\textit{CLOSED}}$ for the Season

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

St. Clare, Loveladies - CLOSED for the Season

The St. Francis Parish and Center will be **CLOSED** on Monday, January 15th in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

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.

<u>Parish Registration</u>: 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.

<u>Marriage</u>: 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.

<u>Pastoral Visitations</u>: 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
Joe Hummel
Joe Vaszily

Joe Waszily

Jay Pojednic
Joe Mack
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...





It's the Most Wonderful Parish!

Echoing a bit of my Christmas Eve homily, this is the most wonderful parish!! Last week, Tina Kelsall texted me, "When do you want me to take the Christmas decorations down?" I immediately replied, "I really don't want you to take them down!"

The church looked so beautiful that it would have been great if we could have kept them up longer, but Christmas officially was over on Monday, January 8th when the Church celebrated the Baptism of the Lord. I begrudgingly asked Tina to begin taking down the decorations after the 9 AM Mass on Monday the 8th. Another Christmas is gone, but another new year is upon us, and it is always good to start again!

I want to sincerely thank all of you for your very generous donations to the parish this Christmas.

This year the Christmas Flower Fund totaled \$19,452.00. Last year, \$18,518 was collected. Thank you, one and all! That's the main reason why we can make the church look so beautiful!

A special thanks also needs to be made to Oli Zelles, a florist from Cliffside Park, NJ., and a friend of St. Francis Parish. She not only donated her time decorating, but she also donated the green boughs and branches. Thank you, Thank you, Oli!

In our attempt to save paper and resources, the 2023 Christmas Flower Fund Memorial is posted on our parish website. www.stfrancisparishlbi.org Thank you for your great love of our parish and for all of your support.

As of Wednesday, January 10th, the Christmas collection for 2023 was \$125,104. Last year, at this point, the collection was \$123,262 and by the end of January our Christmas collection for 2022 was \$126,182. The gifts do continue to come in until the end of the month.

Thank you also to those who contributed to the Annual Catholic Appeal. This collection helps fund the operations and initiatives of the Diocese of Trenton. At the end of the year, your generosity pledged \$62,977.80 to the diocese. [2022, \$57,123.38] On behalf of Bp. O'Connell, I want to thank you for your support of our diocese.

Finally, I have been texting back and forth with Bp. O'Connell. As of Tuesday, he was still in Rome but recovering and hopeful of returning home soon. He let me know that although he could not be at the Mass that would be celebrated in Assisi, he asked the priests to offer that Mass for the LBI Franciscans and our parishioners. Please keep him in your prayers as he continues to recover.

May God continue to bless you and your families with peace and all that is good. May the blessings of 2023 pale in comparison to the blessings that await us in 2024.

Fr. Francis Di Spigno, OFM Pastor

Offertory Collection

This Week's First Collection:

Needed: \$25,000

This Week's Second Collection: **Interfaith Health & Support Services**

St. Francis is a founding member of Interfaith Health & Support Services, a coalition of area congregations.

Volunteers provide free services: respite care, medical transportation and shopping

for the frail elderly & isolated in our community. This collection is our annual contribution to this valuable service.

Last Week's First Collection:

Collected: \$18,714 Needed: \$25,000

Last Week's Second Collection:

Utilities

Collected: \$4,806

(Online Giving totals are included in the above figures) * * Thank you for your generosity! * *



<u>St. Francis of Assisi Parish</u> Online Giving! ancisparishlbi.org/donate



6.5 Million Diocesan Goal

Pledged: \$62,977.80 (63% of Goal) Paid: \$62,927.80 (63% of Goal)

Total Donors: 279 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.

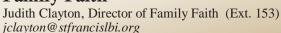
Gospel Inspirations:

"Andrew... first found his own brother Simon and told him, 'We have found the Messiah' - which is translated Christ. Then he brought him to Jesus."

As soon as Andrew discovers Jesus, he brings his brother Simon to meet Him.

Today let's say a prayer of thanksgiving for the person or people who brought each of us to Jesus.

Family Faith



Mary Lou Ligus, Administrative Assistant (Ext. 179) Mary Lou McGurkin, Registration & Tuition Coordinator (Ext. 177)

The Family Faith program is based on the Four Pillars of the catechism of the Catholic Church: Creed, Liturgy, Life in Christ, Prayer. Family Faith classes invite the families to think about their Faith, celebrate their Faith, practice and pray the

During the remaining months of the program, the families will discuss the Mass, Lent, Holy Week, Easter and the Sacraments. Remaining classes Dates – Grades 1 through 7

February 13-14 March 19-20 April 9-10

May 1 – all classes attend – May Crowning

Confirmation Sessions:

January 30 and February 20 February 27 and March 2

Family Faith classes feature opportunities for parent as the primary teachers of their children to share the faith journey: Catholic prayers and devotions, bibles study, social teachings are included

We are fortunate to have special catechists who work with families of children with special needs. Each child's program is specifically designed for them.

Some important dates to remember are:

The sacrament of **First Reconciliation** will be celebrated on April 8, 2024.

Twenty of our youth parishioners will be Confirmed on **April 12, 2024**

Forty of our children will receive their First Eucharist on May 4, 2024.

"Families hear the voice of the Father, see the face of Christ and live in the house of the Church with the Holy Spirit. It gives them a map of life for this earth and the goal of eternal life hereafter."

Rev. Alfred McBride O Praem



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 third chair is for the Holy Spirit, the real Director).

How is God active in your life? Where is God in times of crisis? Is your relationship with God what you'd like it to be? Ouestions like these are

what you'd like it to be? Questions like these are the focus of spiritual direction or "soul care". The director or companion is someone trained to listen and respond to spiritual movements in the life of others.

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:

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, February 7, 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

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).

Gathering: Tuesday, **January 23** at 7 pm

Topic **Privileged Encounter** DVD Bishop Barron

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

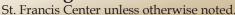
"Dinner with Friends"

We are inviting all widows and widowers to join us at our monthly '*Dinner with Friends*'' gathering for an hour or two of pleasant conversations, an informal dinner, and a healthy serving of laughter!

January 2024 gathering will be on Tuesday. January 16, at 5:15pm in the Brant Beach Church Hall. The entrance to the hall is at the northern end of the church/hall building. If you need a ride to/from the gathering, please call Angela Ominski at 609-618-9974 to arrange for your transportation. Feel free to attend whenever you can. This month's dinner is "bring your own". Hope you can join us! Bring a friend! All are welcome!

Peace and all good, Angela, Kathleen & JoAnne

Meetings:





Bible Talks After Mass

Tom Troyano will be doing brief monthly talks on the bible after the 9:00 AM Mass. Next talk: Wednesday, February 14, 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. *Bully Market* by Jamie Higgins.

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

Men's Cornerstone Planning Meeting

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 16, 7:00 PM, Surf City Church Hall.

Overeaters Anonymous

Friday mornings from 11:00 am - noon. Join us for our 3-fold recovery: Physical, Emotional and Physical. Call Joan T. at (609) 978-2805 or (732) 261-0173 for more information.

Next meeting: Friday, January 19, Room 102, Parish Center.

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, February 8, 7:00 PM, Room 212

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)

<u>Position</u>: 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. <u>Days/Hours</u>: Weekdays/weekends - Hours range from 8-29 per week <u>Pay</u>: \$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

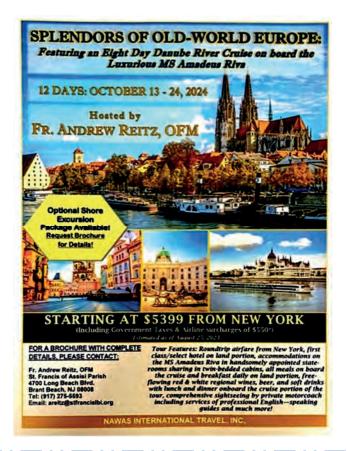
(retirement plan) w/ company match, & more.

*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@stfrancislbi.org

St. Francis Center is an EOE/AA Employer



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.

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

Starts January 13

Aquatics

Water Tots (ages 10 months - 36 months)

Water Tykes (ages 3 year old)

Little Dippers (ages 4 year old)

Little Paddlers 1 (ages 5 & up)

Little Paddlers 2 (ages 5 & up)

Little Sharks (ages 8 & up)

Competitive Swim Fish (ages 8 & up)

Aquatic Zumba Aerobics, Aquatic Aerobics,
Deep Water Aerobics, Aqua Bootcamp

Recreation

<u>Tot & Tyke Baskeball</u> (ages 4 & 5) <u>Tennis Fundamentals</u> (ages 5-8 & 9-12)

Please Call for Class Availability

Did You Know??

Cold water therapy is the use of water to promote health or manage disease. While it has a long history, it's primarily used to speed healing after an injury, ease joint and muscle pain, and quicken recovery from exercise. Cultures around the world have used cold water therapy for thousands of years. Cold water immersion was used for therapeutic and relaxation purposes in Ancient Greece!

Using cold water therapy on a regular basis may also have longterm benefits for your heart and blood vessels. Around every blood vessel is a muscle, so just like doing a bicep curl strengthens your biceps, cold water therapy strengthens your blood vessels around your heart!

If you're new to cold water therapy, hopping into a frigid lake or a tub filled with ice may be too much of a shock, but if you want to try the trend save the date! St Francis Super Plunge 2024 - Saturday, **February 10th!** Call the Center for more information and to register 609-494-0441!

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.

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 <u>TODDLER & PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS</u> 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

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, 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

Counseling Service by appointment (609) 494-1554

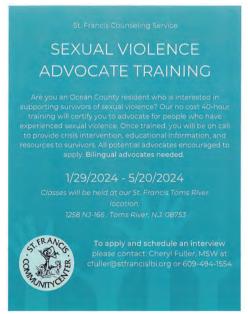
Counseling Services offers trauma-informed, therapeutic sessions for individuals, couples, and families. Services are available in person or virtually and available: for adult and child victims of crime and sexual assault throughout Ocean County and are free of charge; for general mental health counseling 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.











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.

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

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
- 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.

Francis House of Prayer

84 Walnford Rd., Allentown, NJ 08501 609-877-0509

ZOOM ONLY - EXPERIENCING GOD'S LOVE IN THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

4 Tuesdays 6:30 – 7:30 PM

January 23 February 20 March 12 April 16

Donation: \$50

CHRIST'S CALL TO YOU!

5 Mondays 1:00 – 2:30 PM

January 29 February 12 & 26 March 11 & 25

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