

THE BRIDGE



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

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

Palm Sunday



Promise of Life

Lord God,
you entered Jerusalem in triumph, and we
shouted, “Hosanna!” As the Lenten journey
closes, may I continue to remember your

sacrifice and love. Give me the strength to
follow your cross. May my heart find serenity
and joy in your promise. Through Christ our
Lord. Amen.

Sunday, March 24, 2024
Never Alone

Today's readings: Gospel at the procession Mark 11:1–10 or John 12:12–16; Isaiah 50:4–7; Psalm 22:8–9, 17–18, 19–20, 23–24; Philippians 2:6–11; Mark 14:1–15:47. Today's readings leave us much to ponder. During the Gospel at the procession, a crowd welcomes Jesus to Jerusalem, singing, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” At the end of the Gospel from Mark, Jesus was not hailed but reviled as passersby taunted, “You who would destroy the temple in three days, save yourself by coming down from the cross.” In the last verses from Mark's Gospel, we witness the faith of the steadfast disciples, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of younger James and Joseph, and Salome. These women had followed Jesus in Galilee, stood

by until his death, and watched where he was laid in a tomb. Apparent, too, is the faith of Joseph of Arimathea, who wrapped Jesus in linen and laid him in the tomb. Also obvious in the Gospel is the wavering faith of those who had followed Jesus for three years. Not only did Judas betray Jesus, but Peter could not stay awake with him as he prayed in the garden, and later Peter denied him three times. The Gospel proclaimed today does not record the apostles' presence at the crucifixion. During Holy Week, Christians have the opportunity to be with Christ as his last days are recalled. Take to heart Jesus' words to the apostles in Gethsemane: “Remain here and keep watch.”

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

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS	READINGS	EVENTS
Saturday, March 23	<u>(L) Living +Deceased</u> 9:00 AM +Walter Williams 10:00 AM Lenten Communal Reconciliation Services 3:30 - 4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM Palm Sunday, Passion of the Lord +Santo "Babe" Cugliotta	Ez. 37:21-28; Jn. 11:45-56 Mk. 11:1-10; Is. 50:4-7; Phil. 2:6-11; Mk. 14:1-15:47	Flower Sale after 5:00 PM Mass
Sunday, March 24	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord 8:30 AM +Thomas Ackers (L)+Stein & Kempski Families 10:00 AM +Ryan B. Sterling +John Callanan +Steven Carrano 11:30 AM +Kathleen C. Minutella +Austin D'Souza	Mk. 11:1-10; Is. 50:4-7; Phil. 2:6-11; Mk. 14:1-15:47	<i>Live-Streaming 10:00 AM Mass</i> www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlb Flower Sale after All Masses
Monday, March 25	9:00 AM +Hank Casey +Elizabeth Stusts 7:30 PM Chrism Mass for the Diocese	Is. 42:1-7; Jn. 12:1-11	
Tuesday, March 26	9:00 AM (L)Peg Talbot	Is. 49:1-6; Jn. 13:21-33, 36-38	9:45 AM St. Anthony Novena 1:30 PM Book Club, Room 212
Wednesday, March 27	9:00 AM +Thomas Ackers +Cecelia Gosford	Is. 50:4-9a; Mt. 26:14-25	2:00 PM Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
Thursday, March 28	7:30 PM Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper +Saverio "Sammy" D'Amico +Bill Kunz +Francis Brien Reilly	Ex. 12:1-8, 11-14; 1 Cor. 11:23-26; Jn. 13:1-15	<i>Live-Streaming 7:30 PM Mass</i> www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlb
Friday, March 29	Good Friday 12:00 PM <i>Stations of the Cross</i> 3:00 PM <i>Friday of the Passion of the Lord Service</i>	Is. 52:13-53:12; Heb. 4:14-16, 5:7-9; Jn. 18:1-19:42	11:00 AM OA, Room 102 <i>Live-Streaming 3:00 PM Service</i> www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlb Parish Office and Center is CLOSED
Saturday, March 30	Easter Sunday Vigil 7:30 PM +Eugene & Lucille D'Amico +David & Kathleen Barndt +Vincent Ryan	Gen. 1:1-2:2; Ex. 14:15-15:1; Ez. 36:16-17a,18-28; Rom. 6:3-11; Mk. 16:1-7	<i>Live-Streaming 7:30 PM Service</i> www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlb Center is CLOSED
Sunday, March 31	Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord 8:30 AM +Richard Cortellino +Thomas Ackers 10:00 AM +Anne Armstrong, of +Thomas Foley +Ann McNeill 11:30 AM +Rosa & John Primerano +Brannon S. Appicifuoco +James M. Kempski	Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Col. 3:1-4; Jn. 20:1-9	<i>Live-Streaming 10:00 AM Mass</i> www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlb Center is CLOSED

Read our bulletin online at
www.stfrancisparishlb.org



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



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

Emergency Information

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

St. Thomas of Villanova Church 13th & Long Beach Blvd., Surf City	
DATE	MASS INTENTIONS
	(L) Living +Deceased
Sunday, March 24	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord 10:00 AM (L)Thomas & Eileen McGinn Flower Sale after 10:00 AM Mass
Sunday, March 31	Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord 8:30 AM +John H. Klose 10:00 AM +Irma Brady (L)Thomas & Eileen McGinn

St. Thomas Aquinas Church 2 ND & Atlantic Ave., Beach Haven	
DATE	MASS INTENTIONS
	(L) Living +Deceased
Sunday, March 31	Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord 10:00 AM +People of the Parish

 **Easter Sunday, March 31st**
6:30 AM
SUNRISE SERVICE
on the Third Street Beach in Beach Haven

Mass Intentions: +Robert Graiff
 +Keith Pinto
 +Bert Minnella


In case of inclement weather, sunrise service will be moved indoors to St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Beach Haven

The St. Francis Parish and Center will be **CLOSED** on

Friday, March 29
Saturday, March 30
Sunday, March 31
Monday, April 1




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.


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

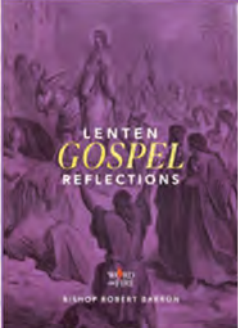


Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

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



Please enjoy a free copy of Bp. Barron's **Lenten Gospel Reflections**. The books offer a daily reflection during Lent. They can be found at the doors of the church, while supplies last.



St. Francis of Assisi Parish is a Franciscan Faith Community of *Our Lady of Guadalupe Province* in the Diocese of Trenton. Find out more about *Our Lady of Guadalupe Province* online at: <https://friars.us>

Join us at St. Francis Parish for
HOLY WEEK

MARCH 23/24
PALM SUNDAY
 BRANT BEACH CHURCH: 5:00 PM SATURDAY
 8:30 AM, *10:00 AM, 11:30 AM
 SURF CITY CHURCH: 10:00 AM SUNDAY

MARCH 28 - SUPPER OF THE LORD
HOLY THURSDAY
 MASS *7:30 PM
 ADORATION AT THE ALTAR OF REPOSE UNTIL 10:00PM

MARCH 29
GOOD FRIDAY
 STATIONS OF THE CROSS: 12:00 PM
 GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE: *3:00 PM

MARCH 30
EASTER VIGIL
 MASS *7:30 PM

MARCH 31
EASTER SUNDAY
 BRANT BEACH CHURCH: 8:30 AM, *10:00 AM 11:30 AM
 SURF CITY CHURCH: 8:30 AM, 10:00 AM
 BEACH HAVEN CHURCH: 10:00 AM

EASTER SUNRISE MASS
 3RD STREET IN BEACH HAVEN
 AT 6:30 AM

***LIVESTREAM**

Easter
FLOWER
Fund 2024



Scan QR code

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
 PARISH AND CENTER

Thank You!

THE PASCHAL CANDLE HAS BEEN
 GENEROUSLY DONATED BY

JOE AND LORRI D'ORSI
 IN MEMORY OF THE
D'Orsi and Caynor Families

...

The JOY of Sharing the Gospel
 Stewardship Program
 Time - **TALENT** - Treasure

Join the ministry life here at St. Francis Parish.
 There is a place for everyone!
 Visit our Stewardship **TALENT** Ministry page on the
 Parish website



www.stfrancisparishlbi.org/ministries

Or Grab a Ministry Brochure at the doors of the church

FEATURED MINISTRY


BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY:
 Bereavement Ministry: Offers
 compassionate support and assistance
 to families grieving the loss of a loved
 one, helping them with funeral Mass
 preparations, altar service, and post-
 Mass gatherings.

If you are interested in joining this ministry contact us at
Ministries@stfrancislbi.org or call 609-494-8813 ext. 159



22nd ANNUAL BLUE MASS
Celebration of Law Enforcement

April 4, 2024
 10:30am
 St. Robert Bellarmine
 Co-Cathedral; Freehold



DIOCESE of
TRENTON

Gospel Inspirations:



*“Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in
 the name of the Lord!
 Hosanna in the highest!*

**Jesus’ triumphant entrance into Jerusalem is
 overshadowed by our knowledge of the suffering to
 come.**

*Let us be brave and unafraid to begin and complete the
 tasks God has set aside for each and every one of us.*

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
Amy Marks, Director, Parish Operations
Sr. Patricia McNiff, OSF
Fr. Andrew Reitz, OFM
Sr. Pat Klemm, OSF (in-residence)
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

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)



Offertory Collection

This Week's First Collection:

Needed: \$20,500

This Week's Second Collection:

Friars and Sisters Vehicle Maintenance & Fuel

This collection will help with the cost of maintaining the vehicles and fuel expenses for the friars and sisters. We appreciate your support so we can be there for our parishioners when they need us.



Holy Land – Good Friday

This collection is taken up throughout the world for the maintenance of Shrines in the Holy Land. Thank you for being generous.

Last Week's First Collection:

Collected: \$20,192

Needed: \$20,500

Last Week's Second Collection:

Church Buildings & Grounds Maintenance

Collected: \$6,382

(Online Giving totals are included in the above figures)

** Thank you for your generosity! **



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

ANNUAL
CATHOLIC
Appeal
2024

Goal: \$85,000

Pledged: \$12,693.00 (15% of Goal)

Paid: \$11,088.00 (13% of Goal)

Total Donors: 87

Total Gifts: 93

Average Gift: \$136.48

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? 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
Fr. Andrew Reitz, ofm, (609) 494-8813 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, **April 3**, 10:30 AM, Zoom
Saturday, **April 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, **April 20**, 10:00 AM, Sr. Lunch Room.

The Rosary Project



St. Francis Parish Women's Cornerstone ladies are now collecting gently used Rosaries to clean and re-package and send to hospital patients,

nursing homes, etc. Please place your donation of used Rosaries in the collection basket in the lobby of the Brant Beach Church. Thank you!

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, **April 17**, 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. **Good Night Irene**, by Luis Urrea.

Next meeting: Tuesday, **March 26**, 1:30 PM, Room 212

Order of the Franciscans Secular offs

Will meet the First Sunday of every month, March thru June, 12:30 PM, New members welcome!

Next meeting: Sunday, **April 7**, 12:30 PM, Church Hall

Overeaters Anonymous OA

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

Next meeting: Friday, **April 5**, 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: Friday, **April 10**, Room 102, Parish Center.

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, ofm at (609) 494-8813 for more info.

Next meeting: Thursday, **April 11**, 7:00 PM, Room 212

Employment Opportunity

For the most up to date listing of employment opportunities for St Francis Parish and Community Center please visit:

The Community Center website

www.stfranciscenterlbi.org/employment-opportunities

The Parish website <https://www.stfrancisparishlbi.org/careers>

Indeed.com <https://www.indeed.com/cmp/St.-Francis-Parish-and-Center-1/jobs> or you can go to the Community Center front desk to fill out an application.

Questions regarding employment opportunities? Please contact Amy Bodine at abodine@stfrancislbi.org



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.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Do you know someone who is undergoing a medical procedure, experiencing a great loss, overwhelming stress, journeying their final

days on earth, or going through a time of bereavement? People who are experiencing these hard times can find it a difficult time to pray. One gift one can give is a blessed prayer shawl made by our Prayer Shawl ministers. If you would like one, please contact Fr. Scott at the parish office, **609-494-8813 ext. 152.**

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@stfrancislbj.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.

Danube River Cruise reservations still available. Cut off date is **May 1**. Make your reservations NOW before all the spaces are taken. Brochures and reservation form available at Parish Office.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Job Fair

Saturday, April 6

Family Health & Safety Fair

Thursday, April 25, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

St. Francis Community Center Gym
 Free Continental breakfast and many free health screenings are offered! Please call Senior Services for a list of screenings.

*Sponsored by: St. Francis Community Center,
 Long Beach Island Health
 Department and Hackensack Meridian Health Southern
 Ocean Medical Center*

Volunteer Breakfast Celebration

Thursday, April 25, 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Sr. Lunch Room

This breakfast celebrates all the volunteers that contribute so much to St. Francis Parish and Community Center throughout the year. Come and meet your fellow volunteers and enjoy a delicious breakfast.

Second Annual Golf Outing

Monday, May 6

LBI National Golf Course

If you have any questions about any of the upcoming events or are interested in attending or volunteering, please contact Michelle DiBella at ext. 107 mdibella@stfrancislbj.org.



Flower Sale

**Saturday, March 23rd &
 Sunday, March 24th**

After all masses at St. Francis of Assisi Church Hall
and

After 10:00 mass at St. Thomas of Villanova Church,
 Surf City

Daffodils, Tulips, Hyacinths, and Lilies will be sold.

All proceeds will go to our charities.

Sponsored by Friends of Francis and Clare

SATURDAY JUNE 15TH 9:30 - 3PM



**SUMMER
 SOLSTICE
 CRAFT
 SHOW**

ST. FRANCIS COMMUNITY CENTER
 4700 LBI BYLD. BRANT BEACH NJ • \$2 ADMISSION



Save the Date

*The Annual Garden Party by the Sea
 A Fashion Show*

*Bonnet Island Estate
 June 19, 2024
 2:00pm - 4:30pm*

TICKETS GO ON SALE AT THE FRONT DESK
 MAY 1, 2024
 TICKET PRICE - \$60

JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF FUN
 FOOD FASHION PRIZES

Counseling Service by appointment (609) 494-1554

St Francis Counseling Service is now offering services for perinatal mood and anxiety disorder! Free and confidential services are available to Ocean county residents with children under the age of three who have experienced trauma and have postpartum symptoms. The goal of the program is to provide counseling for parents in the perinatal period, addressing new parenthood struggles, perinatal mood and anxiety disorder, infertility, miscarriage, stillbirth, sudden infant death syndrome, and trauma. Both individual and group counseling will be offered. Call 609-494-1554 for more information!

Did You Know??

Did you know that April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month? Every day, hundreds of Americans are affected by sexual violence. Every 68 seconds, an individual in America is sexually assaulted, and every 9 minutes, one of those individuals are a child. One of our goals at St Francis Counseling is to continue raising awareness surrounding sexual violence, and to continue breaking down the biases/stigmas that survivors so often experience. If you or anyone you know is struggling with experiences of sexual violence, St Francis Counseling is here to support you. You can contact our counseling service at 609-494-1554, on Mondays and Fridays from 9am-5pm, and Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9am to 9pm. Our 24-hour Confidential Sexual Violence hotline is also available by contacting 609-494-1090.

What Were You Wearing? Virtual Exhibit



The purpose of this virtual exhibit is to honor all survivors of sexual violence and to further spread awareness during Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Our goal is to continue breaking down the stigmas and biases that survivors so commonly experience by answering a question that survivors are asked all too frequently.



Scan our QR code to participate anonymously in our virtual exhibit!

Responses will be collected through March 25, 2021 and available to the public beginning on April 1, 2021

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

Recreation & Aquatics

For info, please call ext. 105. Visit the [Spring Brochure](http://www.stfranciscenterlbi.org) online at www.stfranciscenterlbi.org or pick up a Brochure at the Center lobby.

**Session II:
Registration
Tuesday, April 9th at 9:00am**

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***

We are in need of Personal Care Donations for the Food Pantry:

- Shampoo
- Deodorant
- Soap/shower gel
- Feminine items
- Laundry detergent
- Toothbrushes/Toothpaste
- Toilet Paper

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

Poetry as a Tool for Wellness



Join us for this **free poetry wellness group!** With a focus on connection and process rather than product or craft, this group is for everyone. From seasoned poets to those yet to discover their inherent poetic voice. Sharing is always optional, and curious observers are always welcome.

Gatherings will take place monthly at St. Francis Community Center and will be available in a hybrid format for online participants.

Email kkrason@stfrancislbi.org for more information or to register. Space is limited.

4300 Long Beach Blvd., LPT, NJ 08008
609-994-3881

Tuesdays
12:00-1:30pm

March 26 - Poetry as a Tool for Wellness

April 23 - Listening to Self and Others

May 28 - Understanding Self-Compassion, and Showing Empathy

June 25 - Making it Real with Healthy Choices

July 23 - Overcoming Obstacles, Generating Forgiveness

August 27 - Riding the Wave of Change: Creating Hope and Transformation

September 24 - Practicing Self-Care

October 22 - Moment-to-Moment: Being in Gratitude

Join one or all!



Katie Krason

Katie Krason is part of the Family Support team at St. Francis Community Center. She holds a Master's in Counseling Psychology, a certificate in Narrative Focused Trauma Care, and is a member of both the National Association of Poetry Therapy and the National Poetry Therapy Association. She is a trained facilitator of the Poetry as a Tool for Wellness program as well as the Poetry Pantry. Working with children of domestic violence and sexual abuse.

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

St. Francis Community Center
Children's Services

Are you in need of Childcare Services?
Openings Available!

We offer year-round childcare
13 months - 5 years of age

Available Care
8:30-5:30 or 9:00-4:00
Open 5 Days a Week

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



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For information call 732-281-8653

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Rachel Hendricks, Coordinator, Respect Life Ministries, Diocese of Trenton

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If you have any questions on purchasing tickets. please email info@stmichaelhelp.org

Website: stmichaelhelp.org.

To volunteer, or for further information, please contact

Deacon Robert Cunningham at 609-709-9549, email:

rcunningham@stfrancislbi.org

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