

THE BRIDGE



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

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

Third Sunday of Easter



A Reconciling Love

Loving Father,
you sent your Son,
our Lord Jesus Christ,
to reconcile the world to you.
Grant that our hearts may be open
to your revelation

in the Eucharist and in the Word.
May your Spirit enliven us
that we may spread our faith
to all we encounter.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, April 14, 2024
Without Fear



Today's readings: Acts 3:13–15, 17–19; Psalm 4:2, 4, 7–8, 9 (7a); 1 John 2:1–5a; Luke 24:35–48. “Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,” we hear in today’s Gospel. Our lives are sometimes filled with so much noise that our Lord’s voice gets lost amid the cacophony. If time in silence with God is carved into our day, we can discern what God is saying to us in Scripture. But being still in a quiet place can be daunting. Begin the practice by sitting in the quiet one minute a day until that minute passes quickly. On subsequent days, increase the time to two, three, and four minutes until you are able to sit for twenty minutes with God. In that silence, open yourself to be vulnerable to God. Doing so might seem daunting so begin by reading a

verse from Scripture, saying a short prayer, or speaking to God just as you would speak to a friend. Tell God what makes you doubt in his promise. There is no need to fear such a conversation with God, for he wants a deeper relationship with you. Just as he met the startled and terrified disciples where they were in their faith, so he will meet you. “Peace be with you,” Jesus says to the disciples in today’s Gospel. He wants peace for you also. In the silence, Christ awaits your invitation to open your mind to the Scriptures. He, too, awaits your response as a witness to the mercy and forgiveness he offers all who believe. In accepting the peace that Christ offers, consider who in your life needs you to offer them mercy

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

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS	READINGS	EVENTS
Saturday, April 13	(L) Living +Deceased 9:00 AM +Thomas Ackers 3:30 - 4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM +Gladys Fuydal +Henry Scala +Norman "Skip" Butler +Dr. Richard & Anne Gove	Acts 6:1-7; Jn. 6:16-21 Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; 1 Jn. 2:1-5a; Lk. 24:35-48	9:45 AM Contemplative Living, Sr. Lounge
Sunday, April 14	8:30 AM +Donna Weiss +Thomas J. Glynn +Christopher Little +Vince McHale 10:00 AM +Edward W. Shanley +Margaret "Peggy" F. Bradley +John Callanan (L)Thomas & Eileen McGinn +Paul John Vazzana 11:30 AM +Barbara Knode +Norman "Skip" Butler +Isabella Mayo	Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; 1 Jn. 2:1-5a; Lk. 24:35-48	Live-Streaming 10:00 AM Mass www.facebook.com/stfrancisparish
Monday, April 15	9:00 AM +William Lynch	Acts 6:8-15; Jn. 6:22-29	
Tuesday, April 16	9:00 AM Franciscan Renewal of Vows (L)Kevin, Marianne & Theresa Byrne	Acts 7:51-8:1a; Jn. 6:30-35	9:45 AM St. Anthony Novena Novena
Wednesday, April 17	9:00 AM +Thomas Ackers +Gerard Robertson	Acts 8:1b-8; Jn. 6:35-40	9:30 AM Bible Talk After Mass 10:00 AM Scripture Study, Room 102 2:00 PM Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
Thursday, April 18	9:00 AM +Michael DiBernardo +Noreen & Jim Sullivan	Acts 8:26-40; Jn. 6:44-51	
Friday, April 19	9:00 AM +Helen Semegan	Acts 9:1-20; Jn. 6:52-59	11:00 AM OA, Room 102
Saturday, April 20	9:00 AM +Thomas Ackers 3:30 - 4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM Good Shepherd Sunday/ World Day of Prayer for Vocations +Dolores & Edward Pottichen +Patricia Bradley (L)Joanne Reeder	Acts 9:31-42; Jn. 6:60-69 Acts 4:8-12:1; Jn. 3:1-2; Jn. 10:11-18	10:00 AM Men's Spirituality, Sr. Lunch Rm.
Sunday, April 21	Good Shepherd Sunday/ World Day of Prayer for Vocations 8:30 AM +Kathleen M. Rossuck +Normal "Skip" Butler +Sheila Meehan, <i>ofs</i> 10:00 AM +Jeanette Herrman +John Callanan +Christine Oswald +Thomas & Edna Lynch (L)Kevin, Marianne & Theresa Byrne 11:30 AM +Martha Stein +Jason W. Krochalis +Norman Butler	Acts 4:8-12:1; Jn. 3:1-2; Jn. 10:11-18	Live-Streaming 10:00 AM Mass www.facebook.com/stfrancisparish

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.

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
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

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: \$23,900

This Week's Second Collection:

Parish Operating Expenses

This collection will help pay our postage, printing, stationary expenses, copy machine rental & supplies needed. Thank you for your generosity.



Last Week's First Collection:

Collected: \$23,950

Needed: \$23,900

Last Week's Second Collection:

Utilities

Collected: \$6,653

(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: \$25,366.00 (30% of Goal)

Paid: \$22,277.00 (26% of Goal)

Total Donors: 141

Total Gifts: 149

Average Gift: \$170.24

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.

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)



Gospel Inspirations:



"Why are you troubled? And why do questions arise in your hearts?"

Jesus tells his disciples that He is alive and that they must understand this so they can spread the Good News.

We, too, are encountering Christ every day without recognizing Him. Do we see Him in the poor, the homeless, the immigrant?

Jesus, give us the grace to see you in all we encounter.

Mass Schedule through April 27/28, 2024

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**

Helping Moms in Need



St. Francis Life Ministry invites you to help moms in our local area who are in need. We have been contacted by Southern Ocean Medical Center and Interfaith Health & Support Services with the names of those most in need.

Beginning **April 28th**, baskets will be in the lobbies of the Brant Beach, Surf City, and Beach Haven Churches and will have cards identifying much-needed baby items to purchase. Once the items are purchased, you can bring them back to the lobbies of the churches to be collected and distributed on Mother's Day, **May 12th**. We appreciate your generosity in helping with this most worthwhile cause.

Franciscan Spiritual Center Presents:

Spiritual Direction



Are you interested in a deeper relationship with God? Do you experience a desire to pray always? Are you searching for a better understanding of the actions of God's grace in your life?

Spiritual Direction is not about problem solving. It is neither counseling nor therapy. It is about enhancing one's prayer life. Directors help people recognize and respond to God's will in their life experiences. One Director summed up the process this way, "All I do is listen. People already have a spiritual life; they are not starting here. Often they need relief from the pressure that they are not doing the right thing. I help them see the goodness in where they are on their journey, not where they think they're supposed to be." God is the real spiritual director.

The Diocese of Trenton has several training programs called an internship. These are two or three year programs focusing on deepening one's own spiritual life and on learning the dynamics of Spiritual Direction. Upon completion of the program a person receives a Certificate from the Diocese.

Our parish has four certified Spiritual Directors.

There is no charge for Spiritual Direction. If you think this might be a way for you to recognize God's actions in your life please call:

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: 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.

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. *The Sun Does Shine*, by Anthony Hinton.

Next meeting: Tuesday, **April 30**, 1:30 PM, Room 212

Order of the Franciscans Secular ofs

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

Next meeting: Sunday, **May 5**, 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 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, **April 24**, 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, **May 9**, 7:00 PM, Room 212



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.**

Embrace Our Way of Life

 **FRANCISCAN FRIARS**
PROVINCE OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE 

Franciscan Vocation Ministry
Br. Basil Valente, OFM
129 West 31st Street, 2nd Fl., New York, NY 10001-3403
1-800-677-7788 ext. 345 vocation@friars.us

Franciscan Sisters of Philadelphia, PA
Vocation Office vocations@osphil.org

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!



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.

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, 2024

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.

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@stfrancislbj.org

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>

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.

SPECIAL EVENTS

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.

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@stfrancisbi.org.

Saint Francis Community Center

Second Annual Golf Outing

Monday, **May 6, 2024**

LBI National Golf Course

Little Egg Harbor Twp., NJ

Register Now

Join us for a spectacular day of golf, food & contests as we raise money for St. Francis Community Center. There are lots of prizes, from closest to the pin to longest drives for both men and women. There are four par 3 holes - hit a hole in one and win a \$5,000 cash prize!

Scan Me



Questions? Contact Michelle DiBella at ext. 107 mdibella@stfrancisbi.org

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 - \$65



Scan for more info

JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF FUN

FOOD FASHION PRIZES

Did You Know??

Do you want to make a difference in your community? Consider volunteering at St. Francis Community Center! We have a variety of volunteer opportunities available year-round, from our Summer Solstice Craft Show to Swimming Under the Stars, Family Fun Night, and The Funky Flea Market. All of these events support our Senior Services, Counseling, Family Support, Recreational, Children's Services and Educational & Career Services Departments. By volunteering, you can improve the lives of those in our community who need it most. Contact Michelle DiBella at mdibella@stfrancisbi.org or 609-494-8861 x107 to learn more about how you can make a positive impact today!

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

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*

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.

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 **Spring Brochure** online at www.stfranciscenterlbi.org or pick up a Brochure at the Center lobby.

Basic Boating Safety Course - NJ Certified

Session I

Tuesday & Thursday,

April 16 & 18; 5:00-9:00pm

Ages: 13 & up

Fee: \$90



The NJ State Police Certification Course for Basic Boating Safety will consist of a total of 8 hours of lecture and video with homework and test. This class will prepare and certify you to operate a motor boat or a personal water craft vessel in NJ. Certified operators ages 13-15 may operate vessels with up to a 1 hp motor. However, if the vessel is over 12 feet long, then motor may be up to 9.9 hp. Certified operators ages 16 and older may operate any motor boat or personal watercraft. Workbooks will be provided. Must attend both classes.

Instructor: Joseph Gozdieski, Capt. Joe

Place: Pool Multi-Purpose Room (Max: 15 Min: 4)

(Session II: May 21 & 23; 5:00-9:00pm)

(Session III: June 18 & June 20; 5:00-9:00pm)

Session IIa

All Level Yoga

Place: Pool Multi-Purpose Room

Monday **April 22-June 3, 5:00-6:00pm**

Fee: \$100

(no class 5/27)

You will learn breathing exercises, various yoga poses, balancing, stretching and meditation. Students should be comfortable seated on the floor for short periods of time. If you have any medical conditions check with your physician before registering. Please bring a Yoga mat to class.

(Drop-In Fee \$18 space permitting)



Counseling Service by appointment (609) 494-1554

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month! It has been honored as a month-long awareness campaign since 1970! St Francis Counseling Service provides the sexual violence hotline for Ocean County, which is staffed 24/7/365 by advocates trained to assist survivors of sexual violence and can be reached by calling 609-494-1090. Join SFCS and sexual assault programs across the world in honoring this awareness month by wearing teal (the color of sexual violence awareness) and celebrating Denim Day (the last Wednesday in April, which is April 24th this year!) Check out our facebook page: [stfranciscounselingservice](https://www.facebook.com/stfranciscounselingservice) for more information on events and programs! If you or someone you know has been the victim of a violence crime and needs counseling support, call 609-494-1554.

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.







Please Join Us to Learn About...

ADVANCE CARE PLANNING

Our Team is Here to Answer Important Questions:



What is advance care planning?

- What is a living Will? A POLST?
- What is Palliative Care?
- Why are these documents important?
- How will they benefit me and my family?

Thursday, May 9th
11:00-12:00PM
The Senior Lounge
Limited Space
Refreshments Served

St Francis Community Center
4700 Long Beach Blvd
Long Beach Township (LBI)

How do you start the conversation with your loved ones?
We can help

Questions about Event or to RSVP
Call Linda Falco 609-494-8861 or
HMH Palliative Care 732-202-8071

KEEP GETTING BETTER



Community Bulletin Board

Maris Stella Retreat Center

Harvey Cedars, NJ 08008

Summer Retreats

Guided Retreat: "Images of God in Sea, Sky, and Sand"

Sunday, June 16 – Saturday, June 22, 2024

Each day of the retreat will focus on an element of creation: water, wind, sun, clouds, sand, etc. through poetry and photography. Retreatants will be invited to tap into their own creativity. Silence will be enjoyed on this retreat with sharing in the gift of conversation at the dinner meal only.
Presenter: Ellen Dauwer, SC

Preached Retreat: "The Gift of Aging Contemplatively"

Sunday June 23 – Saturday, June 29, 2024

We will take a deep dive into reimagining Aging as an invitation to live our lives with passion and gratitude. A quiet retreat offers the needed environment for prayer and rest and welcomes the gift of conversation at meals.

Presenters: Rev. Jack Rathschmidt and Gaynell Cronin

Silent Directed/Private Retreat

Monday, July 22 – Sunday, July 28, 2024

Directed: Private prayer, mass and meet each day with a Spiritual Director.

Private: Private prayer, mass and quiet time away.

Spiritual Director: Eileen McGovern, SSJ

For more information or to register: www.marisstella.org or Call Sr Pat 609-494-1182 or pdotzauer@comcast.net

Catholic Women of Zion Chapter 2

St. Mary of the Pines Church

CATHOLIC WOMEN OF ZION CHAPTER 2 at St. Mary of the Pines Church

The day consists of Mass, Music by: *Joyful Praise*, speaker, sharing, networking and prayers for healing. This month's speaker is: **Kathy Nowak**, she has been a member of the Church of Epiphany in Brick for many years.

Her many ministries included—Women's faith-sharing groups, prayer group leader, Bible Studies, healing masses, Life in the Spirit Seminars. She volunteered at a crisis pregnancy center for eight years, is a member of Light of Life Prayer Group and has been a facilitator of the Evening Bible Study group for the past 12 years.

"Spiritual Works of Mercy—Counsel the Doubtful"

Date: Saturday, April 20, 2024

9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Mass- 9:00am. will be celebrated by Msgr. Ken Tuzeneu

Place: St. Mary of the Pines Church

100 Bishop Lane, Manahawkin, NJ 08050

Admission: \$25.00 includes Box lunch - pay at the door

Come and bring a friend!

Reservations: are necessary—must select a Box Lunch from selections listed on CWOZ Website www.cwoz.org You can also register by phone—please leave your phone number, spell your last name and selection of Box Lunch at 732-475-7113 no later than Tuesday, April 16, 2024. Contact: **Mary Ann Collett, MSW, MA, CLEM Co-founder/Director of Catholic Women of Zion** cwoz@cwoz.org

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 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.

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