

Sixth Sunday of Easter



Remaining in Your Love

Almighty Father, through your Son, you have given us new life. May we seek to remain in you by yielding to your command to love one another. Grant that our hearts may be open to meet the needs of others in our midst so that we might truly call ourselves your friends. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, May 5, 2024 Joy and Love

Today's readings: Acts 10:25–26, 34–35, 44–48; Psalm 98:1, 2–3, 3–4; 1 John 4:7–10; John 15:9–17. The Gospel provides a sense of the immensity of God's love in the first sentences today. "As the Father loves me, so I also love you," Jesus tells the disciples. Imagine what that means. Jesus is saying that he loves his followers with the same love that the Father loves him. From these few words, we can begin to understand the communion of love to which we are invited through our baptism. In the first reading, it becomes apparent that God reaches out to all to share his bountiful love. "In truth, I see that God shows no partiality," Peter explains, citing his reason for meeting with the Gentile

Cornelius. Peter well knew that it was unlawful for a Jew to visit a Gentile; however, Jesus had shown him another way. No one was to be considered profane or unclean. As he ministered to the Gentiles, Peter became a living testimony of God's love. The reading from the First Letter of John explains that we are to love one another because "love is of God." As followers of Christ, we are to spread what is God's. The author of the letter notes that, by loving, we come to know God. Consider who you refrain from loving. Read over today's Scriptures several times this week to deepen your understanding that "God shows no partiality."

St. Francis of Assisi, 4700 Long Beach Blvd., Brant Beach, NJ						
DATE	MASS INTENTIONS	READINGS	EVENTS			
Saturday, May 4	(L) Living +Deceased 9:00 AM +Thomas Ackers 11:00 AM <i>First Eucharist Celebration</i> 3:30 - 4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM +Mary E. Matthews +Fran Jennetté +Sheila Meehan, <i>ofs</i>	Acts 16:1-10; Jn. 15:18-21 Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; 1 Jn. 4:7-10; Jn. 15:9-17	9:45 AM Contemplative Living, Sr. Lounge			
Sunday, May 5	8:30 AM +Donna Weiss +Vince McHale +Nancie Rose 10:00 AM +Monika Hakola +Tim Nandy +Anna Schiano (L)Kevin, Marianne, & Theresa Byrne 11:30 AM +Ed Coyle +Virginie Richard +Donald Carey	Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; 1 Jn. 4:7-10; Jn. 15:9-17	Live-Streaming 10:00 AM Mass www.facebook.com/stfrancisparish 12:30 PM Order of Franciscan Secular, Church Hall			
Monday, May 6	9:00 AM +Ignazio Green +Anne Dobbs	Acts 16:11-15; Jn. 15:26-16:4a				
Tuesday, May 7	9:00 AM +Michael Carney	Acts 16:22-34; Jn. 16:5-11	9:45 AM St. Anthony Novena Novena			
Wednesday, May 8	9:00 AM +Richard Rebeck	Acts 17:15, 22-18:1; Jn. 16:12-15	10:00 AM Scripture Study, Room 102 2:00 PM Adoration of Blessed Sacrament			
Thursday, May 9	9:00 AM +Thomas Ackers +James M. Kempski	Acts 1:1-11; Eph. 1:17-23; Mk. 16:15-20	7:00 PM Survivors of Suicide, Room 212			
Friday, May 10	9:00 AM +Saverio "Sammy" D'Amico	Acts 18:9-18; Jn. 16:20-23	11:00 AM OA, Room 102			
Saturday, May 11	9:00 AM +Lawrence Robert Mather 3:30 - 4:30 PM Reconciliation Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord; Mother's Day Blessing 5:00 PM +Rosemarie Massimiano +Vincent & Tess Sharkey +Alice B. Schiano	Acts 18:23-28; Jn. 16:23b-28 Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26; 1 Jn. 4:11-16; Jn. 17:11b-19				
Sunday, May 12	Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord; Mother's Day Blessing 8:30 AM +Lucille D'Amico +Dolores Pottichen +Virginie Richard +Lillian Robillard 10:00 AM Intentions of All Mothers 11:30 AM +Edward W. Shanley +Helen Filipovsky +Theresa Kron +Emma & William Pyatt +Patricia Bradley	Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26; 1 Jn. 4:11-16; Jn. 17:11b-19	Live-Streaming 10:00 AM Mass www.facebook.com/stfrancisparish			

St. Thomas Aquinas Church 2ND & Atlantic Ave., Beach Haven

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS
Sunday, May 5	(L) Living +Deceased 10:00 AM +People of the Parish
Sunday, May 12	Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord; Mother's Day Blessing 10:00 AM +Benefactors

 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.

Parish Information - (609) 494-8861

Emergency Information: Available on our answering machine (609) 494-8861 and on the following website: schoolclosingsni.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) 494-8861 ext. 154 or 155.

Family Faith: For children in grades one through eight. Please call Judith Clayton at (609) 494-8861 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) 494-8861, Monday - Friday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM (Closed for lunch 12:00 - 1:00 PM) Family Faith Formation - (609) 494-8861 ext. 153

Parish Finance Council

Cecelia Fowler Fr. Francis Di Spigno, OFM Joe Hummel Joe Vaszily Stacey Kelsall, Comptroller

Fr. Andrew Reitz, OFM Jay Pojednic Joe Mack Peter Williams

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

<u>St. Francis Center</u>

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...

This week I really do have Good News!



The good news is that the engineers told us that St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Beach Haven is structurally OK. I breathed a big sigh of relief. They indicated that some work would need to be done, but structurally we are good to go! As you know, this weekend we begin with the 10 AM Mass in Beach Haven. My hope is that the Beach Haven

Di Spigno, OFM,

parishioners and those living south of Brant Beach will attend Mass in Beach Haven so the Surf City and off island parishioners can worship at St. Francis Church.

The other good news is this weekend and next we will have 40 of our young people receiving their First Holy Communion. Yesterday, Saturday, May 4th, the following students were blessed to receive their First Holy Communion: Allison Brummer, Alex Chung, Kellyn Ducker, Cole Elsasser, Zane Emery, Sailor Gaudet-Walsh, Joseph Iannacone, Malia Hoover, Zack Jenkins, Jack Johann, Scott Kennard, Liliana Makos, Drew Mayeux, Owen Mazzella, Ava-Rose Powell, Anabella Robinson, Riley Seegers, Myla Stephens, Olivia Strasser, and Bridget Trombly. Congratulations to them and thank you to their parents and teachers!! Next weekend, May 11th, at 11 AM, in St. Francis Church, we will celebrate the First Holy Communion of the next 20 students. Everyone is welcome to join us! It is wonderful to see the excitement in their eyes as they come up to receive communion for the first time. It is an excitement that is certainly real when we contemplate what we are doing.

On the Feasts of Corpus Christi in 2021, Pope Francis said in his address during the Angelus, "With simplicity, Jesus gives us the greatest sacrament. His is a humble gesture of giving, a gesture of sharing. At the culmination of his life, he does not distribute an abundance of bread to feed the multitudes but breaks himself apart at the Passover supper with the disciples. In this way Jesus shows us that the aim of life lies in self-giving, that the greatest thing is to serve. ... We find the greatness of God in a piece of Bread, in a fragility that overflows with love, that overflows with sharing. Jesus becomes fragile like the bread that is broken and crumbled. But his strength lies precisely therein, in his fragility. In the Eucharist, fragility is strength: the strength of the love that becomes small so it can be welcomed and not feared; the strength of the love that is broken and shared so as to nourish and give life; the strength of the love that is split apart so as to join all of us in unity." Pope Francis went on to say that another strength that stands out in the fragility of the Eucharist is "the strength to love those who make mistakes." He reminded the crowd that Jesus gave us the Eucharist on the night that he was betrayed. The Pope said, "He gives us the greatest gift while in his heart he feels the deepest abyss: the disciple who eats with Him, who dips the morsel in the same plate, is betraying Him. ... Jesus reacts to the evil with a greater good. He responds to Judas' 'no' with the 'yes' of mercy. He does not punish the sinner, but rather gives His life for him; He pays for him. ... When we receive the Eucharist, Jesus does the same with us: Jesus knows we are sinners; and he knows we make many mistakes, but he does not give up on joining his life to ours. He knows that we need it, because the Eucharist is not the reward of saints, no, it is the Bread of sinners. This is why he exhorts us: "Do not be afraid! Take and eat.

May we all be excited to receive Jesus' love, mercy, and forgiveness when we receive Christ in the Eucharist and may we be that Eucharist for one another.

Peace and All Good. Fr. Francis Di Spigno, OFM Pastor

Offertory Collection

This Week's First Collection: Needed: \$24,300

This Week's Second Collection: Youth Ministry Scholarship Fund

For more than 50 years, the Parish has offered a number of scholarships to our area graduating seniors who have demonstrated noteworthy involvement in the Parish. We are truly grateful for their services and this is one way to show our



appreciation. Subsequently, we will announce the winners in the bulletin.

Last Week's First Collection: Collected: \$21,155

Needed: \$23,900

Last Week's Second Collection: Catholic Home Missions Collected: \$6,473

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



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

CATHOLIC CATHOLIC

Goal: \$85,000 Pledged: \$32,524.00 (38% of Goal) Paid: \$29,341.00 (35% of Goal) Total Donors: 165 Total Gifts: 175 Average Gift: \$185.85

Gospel Inspirations:



"'As the Father loves me, so I also love you....

This I command you: love one another.""

We are called to love because we are loved. Jesus chooses us to be his friends who must love and serve one another unconditionally.

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 Family Promise with the names of those most in need.

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

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)

First Eucharist April 6, 2024

Christian Alston Kylie McNally



First Eucharist May 4, 2024

Allison Brummer Alex Chung Kellyn Ducker Cole Elsasser Zane Emery Sailor Gaudet-Walsh Joseph Iannacone Malia Hoover Zack Jenkins Jack Johann Scott Kennard Liliana Makos Drew Mayeux Owen Mazzella Ava-Rose Powell Anabella Robinson Riley Seegers Myla Stephens Olivia Strasser Bridget Trombly

	Beach Haven	Brant Reach	Surf City*	L'ladies
April 6/5	- May 18/19	Drain Deach	Surreny	L laures
April or	- May 10/13	5:00 PM	1	-
		8:30 AM		
May 4/5	10:00 AM	10:00 AM*		
any 45	10.00 / 101	11:30 AM	1	1
MEMOR	RIAL DAY WEL	EKEND - May		
	5:00 PM	5:00 PM	5:00 PM HALL	5:00 PM
		7:15 AM		
	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM HALL	8:30 AM
	10:00 AM	10:00 AM*	10:00 AM HALL	10:00 AM
		11:30 AM		
June 1/2	- June 22/23			
	5:00 PM	5:00 PM		
	12	7:15 AM		
	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	1	
	10:00 AM	10:00 AM*	14	
		11:30 AM		
June 29/	30 - August 31/	September 1		-
	5:00 PM	5:00 PM	5:00 PM HALL	5:00 PM
		7:15 AM		
	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM HALL	8:30 AM
	10:00 AM	10:00 AM*	10:00 AM HALL	10:00 AM
	11:30 AM	11:30 AM	11:30 AM HALL	

Franciscan Spiritual Center **Presents:**

Spiritual Direction



Spiritual Direction is a professional ministry in which a spiritual director accompanies others to grow in intimacy with God as they experience the challenges and joys of life. This sacred ministry assists individuals to notice and savor their experiences of God and to respond to God's abundant love. We now have three certified Spiritual Directors offering *free* Spiritual Direction in our parish. For an appointment please call:

Kathy Egan, (215) 694-4651 Mary Lou Jacoby, (732) 995-6917 Fr. Andrew Reitz, ofm, (609) 494-8861 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!

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 vour place.

Next meeting: Saturday, May 18, 10:00 AM, Sr. Lunch Room.

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.

Read our bulletin online at

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

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, May 15, 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. Saints for All Occasion, by J. Sullivan. Next meeting: Tuesday, May 28, 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, May 10, 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, May 8, 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, osf at (609) 494-8861 for more info. Next meeting: Thursday, May 9, 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*

> Our "Dinner with Friends" meeting for widows and widowers will be on Tuesday, May 14th at 5:15pm in the Brant Beach Church Hall. No need to bring dinner this month. Pizza and salad are being provided. All are welcome.





Danube River Cruise reservations still available. Cut off date is May 15. Make your reservations NOW before all the spaces are taken. Brochures and reservation form available at Parish Office.

Sight and Sound October 9, 2024



\$192

Includes: Show, Lunch, Transportation & Driver's Tip
 From the fiery furnace to the infamous den of lions, DANIEL is a spectacular theatrical experience for the whole family.
 Witness one of the Bible's most hope-filled stories as it comes to life in this brand-new original stage production from

Sight & Sound Theaters.

Daniel Package Includes:

- Show Ticket
- Smorgasbord Lunch
- Shopping at Shady Maple

Contact Info.: Cheryl Krzaczyk, 609-661-5229 Mary Lou Ligus, 215-850-7809

Bus pick up at Walmart in Manahawkin & St. Francis LBI St. Francis Parish, 4700 Long Beach Blvd., Long Beach Twp., NJ 08008

SPECIAL EVENTS

REGISTER NOW!

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!





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



Did You Know??

The St. Francis Community Center has arranged several upcoming events for May and June, and we hope that you join us. Our **2nd Annual Golf Outing** is scheduled for Monday, **May 6th** at LBI National Golf Course. Next up is the **Summer Solstice Craft Show** on Saturday, **June 15th** and will be showcasing 70 talented local artists and craft vendors. As the summer months approach, the St. Francis Community Center is offering a variety of exciting events. On **July 24th**, **Swimming Under the Stars** will take place, while **August 8th** will be our Family Fun Swim Night. The First Annual **Funky Flea Market** is set for **Sunday, August 11th**. For those seeking further event or vendor information, inquiries can be directed via email to <u>mdibel-</u> *la@stfrancislbi.org* or by calling 609-494-8861 x107.



Educational & Career Services

For information call 732-281-8653

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



Cultural Competency Statement

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

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 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.

> rd Anxiety Disorders FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE TO OCEAN COUNTY RESIDENTS WITH CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF THREE WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED TRAUMA AND HAVE

ST FRANCIS COUNSELING SERVICE IS NOW OFFERING

port for Perinatal Mood

GROUP AND INDIVIDUAL OPTIONS AVAILABLE!

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

Call 609-494-1554 for more information St Francis Counseling Service-4700 Long Beach Blud. Long Beach Twp. NJ SUPPORTED BY COUNTY OF OCEAN, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES GRANT

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.

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**

Items needed:

ALL Canned Vegetables & Beans Canned Chicken Soup Tea Nutritional Drinks (ie. Boost) Pasta & Jarred 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: <u>http://stfranciscenterlbi.org/donate</u> 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).

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

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 II: Tuesday & Thursday, May 21 & 23; 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)

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



Are you looking for a place to hold a birthday party?
St. Francis Community Center offers a wet and wild time! Each party is two hours.
We provide the party room, which includes: tables, chairs, a full kitchen and garbage cans.

You supply the party decorations, food and beverages. Call the Aquatic Center today for more information or to book a Party; 609-494-8861 ext. 187.

Private Swim Lessons: \$30 (per half-hour) Sundays

Appointments for lessons must be made through the Aquatic Center Reception Desk at ext. 187.

All lessons must be paid in full, in advance. No refunds! Private lessons offer one-on-one instruction for adults or children. This program is for anyone to learn basic aquatic safety skills or learn to swim or acquire new swimming skills.

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.



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

St. Joseph's Parishhttp://www.donovancatholic.org685 Hooper Ave., Toms River, NJ732-349-0018 x2223



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: <u>www.marisstella.org</u> or Call Sr Pat 609-494-1182 or <u>pdotzauer@comcast.net</u>

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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