

THE BRIDGE



With open
arms for all!

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 11, 2021

- PARISH STAFF -

Fr. Francis DiSpigno, OFM, Pastor
Michele Beck, Music
Fr. Scott Brookbank, OFM
Judith Clayton, FFF
Deacon Robert Cunningham
Fr. Kevin Daly, OFM
Fr. John Frambes, OFM
Fr. Stephen Kluge, OFM
Sr. Patricia McNiff, OSF
Jo Anne Reeder, Worship
Fr. Andrew Reitz, OFM

Parish Office
(609) 494-8813
Mon. - Fri. 9 AM to 3 PM
(Closed for lunch 12 - 1 PM)
Family Faith Formation
(609) 494-8813 ext. 153
Community Center
(609) 494-8861
Counseling Services
(609) 494-1554

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 of Assisi Parish
is a Franciscan Faith Community of
Holy Name Province
in the Diocese of Trenton.

Find out more about
Holy Name Province online at:
www.hnp.org

Franciscan Sisters of Allegany, NY
Vocation Office
vocations@fsallegany.org

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

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

*Jesus came and stood in their
midst and said to them,
“Peace be with you.”*



Gospel Challenge:

“As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”

Do you know where you must go to share Christ’s peace?

St. Francis of Assisi Parish offers ONLINE GIVING
Parishioners who prefer to donate through our Online Giving Service, a
secure and personalized way to give to the Parish, can visit our website at:
<http://www.stfrancisparishlbi.org>

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

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS	READINGS	EVENTS
Saturday, April 10	<u>(L) Living +Deceased</u> 9:00 AM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i> 3:30 - 4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM +Thomas Lally +Brian McCauley	Acts 4:13-21; Mk. 16:9-15 Acts 4:32-35; 1 Jn. 5:1-6; Jn. 20:19-31	
Sunday, April 11	<i>Divine Mercy Sunday</i> 8:30 AM +Tami Vest 10:00 AM +Gerald F. Lee +Patrick Harrington +Mary Cicco 11:30 AM +George Russo 5:00 PM <i>Mass of Remembrance</i>	Acts 4:32-35; 1 Jn. 5:1-6; Jn. 20:19-31	10:00 AM <i>Live-Streaming Mass</i> www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi 12:30-1:00 PM "In car" Communion 1:00 PM OFS Fraternity Zoom Meeting
Monday, April 12	9:00 AM +Anna & Walter Karch	Acts 4:23-31; Jn. 3:1-8	
Tuesday, April 13	9:00 AM +Gladys Fuydal +Henry Scala	Acts 4:32-37; Jn. 3:7b-15	
Wednesday, April 14	9:00 AM +Barbara Knode +Betty Ann Goodwin	Acts 5:17-26; Jn. 3:16-21	7:00 PM Scripture Study Zoom Mtg.
Thursday, April 15	9:00 AM +Dr. Richard & Mrs. Anne Gove	Acts 5:27-33; Jn. 3:31-36	
Friday, April 16	9:00 AM +Deborah Diffenderfer	Acts 5:34-42; Jn. 6:1-15	
Saturday, April 17	9:00 AM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i> 3:30 - 4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM +Arlene Harlfinger	Acts 6:1-7; Jn. 6:16-21 Acts 2:14, 22-33; 1 Pt. 1:17-21; Lk. 24:13-35	
Sunday, April 18	8:30 AM +Michael DiBernardo +Emma Ferraro 10:00 AM +Martha Stein +Margaret McCully +Anthony Chirico 11:30 AM +Josefina Sandoval	Acts 2:14, 22-33; 1 Pt. 1:17-21; Lk. 24:13-35	10:00 AM <i>Live-Streaming Mass</i> www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi 12:30-1:00 PM "In car" Communion

St. Thomas of Villanova Church 13th & Long Beach Blvd., Surf City

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS
Saturday, April 10	<u>(L) Living +Deceased</u> 5:00 PM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i>
Sunday, April 11	8:30 AM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i> 10:00 AM +James M. Kempfski
Saturday, April 17	5:00 PM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i>
Sunday, April 18	8:30 AM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i> 10:00 AM +Jo Venneward

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

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS
Saturday, April 10	<u>(L) Living +Deceased</u> 5:00 PM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i>
Sunday, April 11	10:00 AM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i>
Saturday, April 17	5:00 PM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i>
Sunday, April 18	10:00 AM +Kathryn Bongiovi

Peace Prayer Project

Remember to pray the
Peace Prayer of St. Francis
every Wednesday at noon!



St. Clare's Church, Loveladies, NJ *Closed for the Season*

Parish Information - (609) 494-8813

Emergency Information: Available on our answering machine (609) 494-8861 and on the following website: schoolclosingsnj.com and facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi.

Evacuation Information: In the event of a hurricane, severe weather, or extreme high tides, please do not call the Parish Office for assistance and note that **none** of the parish buildings (churches, community center, residences or maintenance facilities) has been designated as an evacuation site. Evacuate as soon as you can, following the direction of local officials.

Parish Registration: The Parish Office is located on the second floor of St. Francis Community Center, 4700 Long Beach Blvd., Long Beach Twp., NJ. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 3:00 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.

Faith Formation and Education: For children ages six through high school. 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 Collections

Second Collection Today:

Parish Operating Expenses

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

Due to the holiday closings, collection totals will appear in the next bulletin.



**St. Francis of Assisi Parish
Online Giving!**

stfrancisparishlbi.org

Weekly Reflections...

Peace is with you!

Three times in today's Gospel the risen Lord addresses us: "Peace be with you". The peace of the risen Christ is a peace that comforts fears, empowers forgiveness, and enables us to accept suffering and death as the doorway to new life. As a community of memory and hope here at St Francis, we celebrate **Divine Mercy Sunday** by remembering those who have been touched by suicide. At our Eucharistic Liturgy this evening, we will remember in hope over one hundred people whose lives have tragically ended by suicide. Some say that the death of a loved one by suicide is probably the most traumatic event that can be experienced. Shock, denial, anger, shame, unbelievable pain and grief are but a few of the emotions that the survivor encounters immediately. There are so many questions, so few answers. Where does one begin? Our faith tells us that we are not left alone to survive this awful experience. God is there in the midst of the chaos and confusion. The God of compassion holds the hand of the deceased and gently brings His child to paradise, while the God of love enfolds the survivors of suicide in Trinitarian embrace.

Today's Scriptures tell us that faith begins with a personal encounter with the risen Christ. This leads to membership in a community of faith that gives witness through concrete actions to the presence of Christ. One way this challenge might be lived out is when we find ourselves in conversation with an individual who has lost a loved one by suicide. Our tendency is to panic or react... what do I say?... will I make "it" worse? How does one express condolences about a topic that so often in the past was "taboo"? It is in being compassionate and willing to share ourselves that the process of healing begins. God made us holy and human. We are forged together by tragedy...but united in hope. Our senses of seeing, feeling, hearing are doorways to compassion and knowledge. It is in everyday experiences that we know that Jesus is risen and alive among us. Simple gestures, such as a card or note of condolence, a shared memory of the loved one, are but a few ways to express empathy with another. It is in each other that we touch the wounds of Christ and bring healing. At the same time, we come to greater belief that we are signs of the risen Christ and know that God works in us as we share with each other the risen life within.

(Survivors of Suicide meets here at St. Francis (via zoom for the present) on the 2nd Thursday of the each month.)

May the God of Peace bring us to New Hope and Joy this day!

Sr. Pat McNiff, osf

Mass of Remembrance



All Survivors of Suicide
Sunday, **April 11**, 5:00 PM
St. Francis Church, Brant Beach
Please bring a picture of your loved one.

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 five 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:

Barbara H. Angeline, ofs, (609) 384-6188,
Maryann Barrek, ofs, (609) 661-4441,
Anne Bock, ofs, (609) 204-3835,
Kathy Egan, (215) 694-4651,

Scripture Study

This group meets bi-monthly on Wednesdays, from 7:00 to 8:00 PM to learn, discuss and reflect on passages of the Sacred Scriptures. It is a "zoom meeting" led by Tom Troyano. No prior bible study background needed, just an interest in bible study and your own copy of the bible.

Call (609) 261-4721 or email: tomtroyano@comcast.net for more information.

Next scheduled zoom meeting: **April 14**

An Invitation to Contemplative Living

This program calls out to those who desire to live more contemplatively in the world, to grow in union with God and others, and to become more aware, intentional and free. God liberates us and heals us through the practice of contemplative prayer. Monthly "zoom sessions" on the practice of contemplative prayer are scheduled the 1st Wednesday of each month at 10:30 AM. Email Kathy Egan for more information at: klegan.chaplain@gmail.com

Next scheduled zoom session: **May 5**

Survivors of Suicide

Survivors of Suicide meets the 2nd Thursday of each month via zoom.

Call Sr. Pat McNiff, ofs at (609) 494-8813 for more information.



Family Faith Formation



Judith Clayton, Director of FFF (Ext. 153)

jclayton@stfrancislbj.org

Eileen Bowker, Youth Minister (Ext. 178)

Angie Graiff, Elementary Coordinator (Ext. 150)

Mary Lou Ligus, Administrative Assistant (Ext. 179)

Marion Pierri, Registration & Tuition Coordinator (Ext. 177)

In-person registration for 2021-2022 Religious Education Program will be on **April 21** from 1:00 to 6:00 PM in the Family Faith Offices, 2nd floor of the Community Center.

All classes will continue to be home based for the rest of this year.

Please remember to return the permission slip to allow for video or virtual learning (Grades 6-8 only).

Mass Schedule -April 10/11 thru May 22/23

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/stfrancisparishlbj

"In-car" Communion: Sundays 12:30 to 1:00 PM

St. Thomas of Villanova, Surf City

Saturday, 5:00 PM; Sunday, 8:30, 10:00 AM

St. Thomas Aquinas, Beach Haven

Saturday, 5:00 PM; Sunday, 10:00 AM

St. Clare, Loveladies - CLOSED

Adult Faith Enrichment and

RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Are you 18 years of age or older
and would like to join the
Catholic faith Community?



Here at St. Francis classes are beginning
for anyone who would like to celebrate the
Sacraments of Baptism, and/or First Communion
and Confirmation.

Call Fr. Steve or Sr. Pat at (609) 494-8813 for more
information or to register.

Women's Cornerstone Retreat



SAVE THE DATE

October 22 & 23, 2021

Women's Cornerstone Retreat Invitation For the Women (18+) of St. Francis Parish & Friends. If you've never had the experience of the Women's Cornerstone Retreat this could be the year for you to take time for yourself, or for someone that you love. Friday, October 22 to Saturday October 23. Maris Stella Retreat House, Harvey Cedars. *Please contact Lauren Finelli with questions or for information:* lgf_finelli@hotmail.com or (609) 332-8366.

All prevailing COVID-19 regulations will be observed.

Employment Opportunity



Preschool Teacher and Teacher Assistant (Toddler & Preschool)

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 and/or experience working with children. Must be 18 or older. First Aid & CPR Certified and Bi-Lingual a plus.

Positions: Year-round Full-time (with Benefits), Part-time, and substitute

Pay: Teacher Assistant- \$12.00/hr.
Preschool Teacher/Lead Teacher- \$13.00 w/ BA Degree in Early Childhood

Days: Monday-Friday

Counseling Services

Full-time and Part-time Licensed Counselors and Bilingual (Fluent English/Spanish) Licensed Counselors

Days: Monday through Friday (Some evening hours required)
Must complete 40-hour Confidential Sexual Violence Advocate Training (provided free of charge by the agency). **Must have Current Professional License:** LSW, LAC, LPC or LCSW.

Recreation/Pool

Private Swim Lesson Instructors

For year round employment for an indoor pool and 2 seasonal outdoor pools. Pool lifeguard certification, CPR/AED and First Aid Certification are not required but preferred.

For weekend and weeknight lessons, Age 4 years to adults
Hours range from 8 to 29 per week, (may occasionally exceed 29 hours dependent upon season)

Job Type: Part-time

****All full-time positions are offered benefits including Health Care, Paid time off, life insurance, 403B Matching and more.**

Please send resumes to Amy Bodine
abodine@stfrancislbj.org

St. Francis Center is an EOE/AA Employer

Monthly Meetings:

St. Francis Center unless otherwise noted.



Order of the Franciscans Secular offs
Sunday, April 11, 1:00 PM
Fraternity "Zoom" Meeting

Franciscan Recommitment Day
Monday, April 19, at 9:00 AM Mass

Did You Know??

"As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands — one for helping yourself, the other for helping others." — Audrey Hepburn

April 18-24 is National Volunteer Week. Due to the Coronavirus we are not able to have our annual Volunteer Celebration Day. The staff at St. Francis Parish and Community Center appreciates each and every one of our generous volunteers. Whether you volunteer weekly at the Food Pantry, delivering meals or help at Special Events or selling Car Raffle tickets you are definitely appreciated each and every day.

Make A Gift to St. Francis Parish

If you are planning your will and/or estate and would like to make a gift to St. Francis Parish or LBICC, Inc., please contact:

Fr. Francis DiSpigno, Pastor
at: fdispigno@stfrancislbj.org or

Wendy Saunders, Executive Director,
at: wsaunders@stfrancislbj.org or
call (609) 494-8861 for more information.

Promise to Protect Pledge to Heal

If you have been abused or victimized by someone representing the Catholic Church...

Please believe in the possibility for hope and help and healing. We encourage you to come forward and speak out. Every arch/diocese/eparchy in the United States now has a victim assistance coordinator who is available to obtain support for your needs, to help you make a formal complaint of abuse to the arch/diocese/eparchy, and to arrange a personal meeting with the bishop or his representative, if you desire.

To report abuse by someone representing the church call the Diocesan Hotline 1-888-296-2965.

SPECIAL EVENTS

American Red Cross Blood Mobile

Tuesday, April 20; 1:00 - 6:00 PM
St. Francis Church Hall



Every day, blood donors help patients of all ages: accident and burn victims, heart surgery, organ transplant patients, and those battling cancer. In fact, every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood.

Please call the Community Center at (609) 494-8861 ext.118 or visit: www.redcrossblood.org to schedule an appointment.



Order of Franciscan Secular (ofs)



Mother's Day Plant Sale
Sunday, May 9

(More information to follow)

Fish & Chip Dinner



Thistle of Kearny returns!

Saturday, June 12
4:30 - 7:00 PM

Counseling Service by appointment (609) 494-1554

Services are currently being offered via telephone or various online platforms. We have openings for new clients at this time. Please call (609) 494-1554.



ST. FRANCIS COUNSELING SERVICE
Sexual Assault Awareness Month

DENIM DAY CONTEST

Join us at local coffee shops throughout Ocean County for a chance to spread awareness and win a Denim Day gift bag!

Cool Beans Coffee Cafe (Long Beach Island)
How You Brewin' (Long Beach Island)
Bubby's Beanery (Toms River)
Revolutionary Lounge & Cafe (Toms River)
The Union Market (Tuckerton)

Share a picture of yourself on social media throughout the month of April wearing denim and drinking your favorite coffee shop beverage!

Tag us for a chance to win:
Instagram: OCNJ_PREVENTION
#Caffeine&Consent #NotJustApril #SAAM2021 #OCDenimDay
Or you can email your picture to ddunne@stfrancisbi.org!

Counseling Service: (609)494-1554 / 24 hour hotline: (609)494-1090

By submitting a photograph for the event, participants grant St. Francis Counseling Service permission to use their likeness in a photograph, video, or other digital media in any and all of its publications, including web-based publications, without payment or other consideration. This event was supported by the State of New Jersey Sexual Assault, Abuse and Rape Care (SAARC) Funds, administered by the Department of Children and Families.

Journey Through Grief

This program is designed to help men and women, of all ages, work through the normal stages of grief with education and group support. The program stresses that grief is a journey, a natural and normal reaction to a significant loss in our lives. Education and support can ease our way on this journey.

The group is open to all members of the community regardless of religious affiliation.

Registration is required.
There is NO FEE for this program.



When survivors of sexual assault present to the hospital, their clothing is often taken for evidence. St. Francis Counseling Service, in collaboration with the Ocean County Sexual Assault Response Team, is accepting donations of **NEW** clothing items so survivors have clothes to go home in. This includes towels, washcloths, hair ties, women's yoga pants, t-shirts, underwear, sports bras, men's sweatpants, t-shirts, and boxer briefs in all sizes.

A link to our Amazon With List can be found at <https://a.co/1JR3Qcq> which is also linked on our Facebook. Donations will only be accepted by mail through Amazon or a similar retailer. We are not accepting donations in person due to COVID-19 restrictions.

All donations can be sent to:

St. Francis Community Center
ATTN: Delaney Cronin
4700 Long Beach Blvd.
Long Beach Township, NJ 08008

For questions please contact Delaney Cronin at (609) 494-1554 or dcronin@stfrancisbi.org. Thank you for your support!

Find our wish list here: <https://a.co/1JR3Qcq>

Self Help Groups

Alcoholics Anonymous

Due to COVID-10 please call (609) 641-8855 for updated meetings and locations.

AA HOTLINE (609) 494-5130

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope to maintain continuous sobriety through a 12-step program of recovery, and to help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

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.

Senior Services

For information call ext. 108 or 109.



During these uncertain times, although we do not know when our exercise, socialization and recreation programs will resume, please keep in mind we are here for you.

We are still providing the following:

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.

Please call (609) 978-6220 if you are in need of services.

Jersey Cares - Senior Shoppers Program

If you are 60 years or older and in need of food shopping services, you should know that the Ocean County Office of Senior Services and St. Francis Senior Services has partnered with a reputable nonprofit, Jersey Cares, to provide this service.

You can be assured your safety is our top priority and that all volunteers are fully vetted including background checks.

If you are interested in participating in this program please call St. Francis Senior Services at (609) 978-6220 or St. Francis Senior Services Berkeley Office at (732) 244-9600.

Community Center Donations



St. Francis Center/LBICC is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax-deductible. Our federal tax ID number is 22-2003458. We have provided supportive services to the community for over 45 years and with your help we will continue to do so. Our online donations are processed by *PayPal* so it's fast, easy and secure. We are only able to process online donations from NJ residents only.

If you would like to recognize a donation to the Center in someone's name, donation cards are available at the front desk of the Center and at the Parish Office.

Thank you for your continued generosity!

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.

AQUATICS:

Water Tots, 4 Year Old Beginner Swim, Beginner Level 1 and 2, Intermediate, Spring Swim Clinic, Aquatic Aerobics, and Arthritis Water Exercise



RECREATION:

Tot and Tyke Basketball, All Level Yoga



Lifeguard Training

(Ages 15 & up)

April 21, 5:00 - 7:00 PM;

April 22 - 23, 4:00 - 8:00 PM;

April 24 - 25, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Attendance at the above dates & times is required.

There will be no opportunities to make up missed classes.

If you have concerns about your ability to complete the pre-requisites, please schedule a swimming skill evaluation by calling the pool reception desk at ext. 187 (there is a \$10 guest fee for all evaluations).

Basic Boating Safety Course - NJ Certified

(Ages: 13 & up)



Tuesday & Thursday, 5:00 - 9:00 PM

May 18 & 20

The NJ State Police Certification Course for Basic Boating Safety will prepare and certify you to operate a motor boat or a personal water craft vessel in NJ.

Workbooks will be provided.

Pickleball

A cross between Ping Pong, Tennis, Racquetball and Badminton. Pickleball is played as a singles or doubles game. It's a great sport for teens and up including baby boomers and active seniors.



Monday, Wednesday, Friday

12:15-3:00 PM

in the Gymnasium

\$5 Drop-in or \$30 for a book of 10 passes

Passes available at the Front Desk of the Community Center

Family Support Services

Food Pantry Hours:

Tuesday & Thursday: 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Wednesday: 3:00 to 5:00 PM

By Appointment Only

St. Francis Human Concern Food Pantry is operating by appointment only. Food Pantry hours will remain Tuesday & Thursday 10:00 AM-1:00 PM & Wednesday 3:00-5:00 PM. Please call (609) 494-8861 ext. 171 or 172 to schedule your appointment. Upon arrival for your appointment, you will be asked to park in a designated parking spot in the first row of parking spaces in front of the building. Please call when you arrive.

Pantry based text alerts

We now have a text message alert system which will alert you to any changes to the food pantry and any projects going on.

TO ENROLL TEXT "PANTRY" TO 833-511-0760

****carrier text message rates may apply****

Pantry procedures are subject to change at any time and clients should call St. Francis Community Center at (609) 494-8861 or check Facebook for the most up to date information about the food pantry.

****If you are experiencing any symptoms or have tested positive for COVID-19, PLEASE STAY HOME & make arrangements for someone else to pick up food for you! ****

St. Francis is asking for donations for the food pantry.

Items needed (Personal Products):

Baked Beans, Chef Boyardee Raviolis & Spaghettios,
Dinty Moore Stew, Canned Chicken, Ketchup/Mustard/Mayo,
Coffee

We are still in need of:

Laundry Detergent, Shampoo,
Body Wash/Soap, Toilet Paper,
Dish Detergent

Gift Cards to Acme, Murphy's Market,
Walmart, Target, & ShopRite,

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. <https://a.co/00HTAhy>
or can be dropped off at the Community Center.

Parenting and Anger Management Groups

St. Francis Community Center and locations throughout Ocean County. To register, please call (609) 494-8861 ext. 197. Funded by the Department of Human Services.



Auto Ownership Program

The Auto Ownership Program at St. Francis Community Center is looking for donated vehicles. Donated vehicles are provided to TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) recipients for whom transportation is a major barrier to employment. Cars are donated, repaired, and turned over to clients involved in a work or training activity of the Ocean County TANF program. All donations will receive a letter and 1098c form for tax purposes.

Please call (609) 494-8861 ext. 197 if you are interested in donating.

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 7:30 AM - 6:00 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

Vacation Club

June 21 through September 2, 2021

Ages 5 to 13 (must have completed Kindergarten)

Orientation & Registration:

Monday, May 3 - 4:30 PM

Parent/Guardian must be present for registration!

Registration thereafter according to availability!

*Online registration is **not** available.*

Covid-19 restrictions will be followed.

Educational Services

For information call ext. 185.

St. Francis Adult Basic Education FREE Classes

Due to COVID-19 all classes have been moved to a virtual platform with live instruction. All classes will maintain a weekly class schedule. Classes will return to in person instruction when possible.

The Adult Basic Skills Consortium of Ocean County provides Adult Basic Skills (ABE), High School Equivalency (HSE) and English as a Second Language (ESL) classes. The program offers college and career readiness skills, assist students interested in post-secondary education or training, credentials, obtaining citizenship skills and resources to enter and/or retain employment. All classes and services are provided by the Ocean County Basic Skills Consortium through a grant from the NJ Department of Labor & Workforce Development. Classes are subject to change. Visit our website at: stfranciscenterlbi.org/educational-support.

St. Francis Travel

Home Town Travel

128 Bartlett Ave., Bartlett Commons,

Rt. 9 South, West Creek, NJ 08092

Call Nancy at Home Town Travel (609) 597-5100

Email: hometowntravel@comcast.net



Sightseeing Trips & Cruises



A special note from Nancy Schott, owner of Home Town Travel: The light at the end of the tunnel is, in fact, finally getting brighter. The world is beginning to open her arms as we prepare to again see the wonders she has to offer. With more people getting vaccinated travel is again becoming a reality. I would like to thank all the parishioners of St. Francis for their past support and look forward to assisting you with any travel plans. Look for our presentations on Iceland and Oberammergau for 2022.

Painted Canyons of the West (featuring Utah's five National Parks)

October 3-11, 2021

Highlights of this tour include Colorado National Monument, Moab, Arches National Park, Canyonlands National Park, Dead Horse Point State Park, Bryce Canyon, and Zion National Park with many more experiences. Rate of \$3,649 double occupancy will include: round trip air from Newark, eleven meals, all sightseeing, and some unique culinary inclusions. Please call for more information.

St. Francis Ireland with Father Kevin **October 21-29, 2021**

Father Kevin will escort a private journey to Ireland with Belfast and Giants Causeway. Round trip airfare on United from Newark (including all current government fees and taxes), seven hotel nights (2-Westport, 1-Donnegal, 2-Belfast & 2-Dublin) with private facilities and full Irish breakfast; including day of arrival. Six dinners including Taste n' Tour Belfast and a dinner show at Taylors Three Rock. Highlights include: Cliffs of Moher, Achill Island, Mass at Knock Shrine, Giants Causeway, Guinness Brewery, and Titanic Belfast along with a city tour there, Dublin and Derry. Double occupancy rate is \$3,499 per person. We currently have 10 seats left. Please call for more information

Imperial Cities with Oberammergau Passion Play **September 19-29, 2022**

Set out on an exciting cultural experience of the Imperial Cities of Central Europe featuring traditional entertainment and the epic Oberammergau Passion Play. Highlights include: Budapest, Matthias Church, Fisherman's Bastion, Bratislava, Vienna, Schonbrunn Palace, Cesky Krumlov, Prague, Hradcany Castle, The Passion Play and Munich. Rate of \$6,099 double occupancy includes 16 meals, round trip air Newark, sightseeing, Passion play and much more. For more information please call Nancy

HOME TOWN TRAVEL

14 Night Trans-Atlantic Greenland and Iceland aboard Celebrity Summit (Departure from Bayonne and returning from Southampton. August 1-15, 2021.

Ports: Sea day, Halifax, NS, two sea days, Qaqortoq, Greenland, overnight in Reykjavik, Iceland and half-day in Akureyri, Iceland, sea day, Kirkwall, Scotland and a sea day before arriving in Southampton.

Thanksgiving Cruise - Anthem of the Seas (Round trip Cape Liberty, NJ)

November 21-28, 2021 Have a Royal Caribbean waiter carve your turkey instead of cooking it. Experience the tallest waterslide in North America or snap a photo 450 feet above the beach in CoCo Cay. Rates start at \$1,179 per person and include a \$50/cabin on board credit.

Iceland - The Land of Fire and Ice, February 1-6, 2022 A bucket list trip! Experience the warmth of the therapeutic mud and waters of the Blue Lagoon. Get up close and personal with explosive geysers, glaciers, and immense waterfalls while also experiencing the chance of seeing the Northern Lights. Our flights are from Newark and we will be staying at the Fosshotel Reykjavik with daily breakfast. Rate of \$1,699 double includes all current taxes and fees. Passports (6 month validity) are required.

**For more information or reservations, contact
Nancy at Home Town Travel (609) 597-5100**

Community Bulletin Board

Maris Stella Retreat Center, Harvey Cedars, NJ

Summer Preached Retreat
"Threshold Living...The Experience of Transitions"
Sunday, June 13 – Saturday June 19

Presenter: Anita M. Constance, SC

Registration due: May 15

For information or to register log on to

www.marisstella.org or contact Sr. Pat Dotzauer at pdotzauer@comcast.net or call (609) 494-2917.

Soroptimist Clothes Closet

Stafford Community Center, 25 Pine St., Manahawkin

The Soroptimist Clothes Closet is now open by appointment only on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

With a voucher and an appointment you can choose from: work attire, jackets & coats, everyday clothing, shoes and accessories! Vouchers are available at St. Francis Food Pantry, Churches, & Stafford Community Center.

Call Madelyn at (609) 276-3308 to book an appointment.

Declaración de Capacidad

El Centro St. Francis reconoce una comunidad culturalmente diversa y hace un compromiso con los principios de multiculturalismo como un medio para entender, aceptar, valorar y apoyar la diversidad cultural. El término Multicultural se aplica ampliamente para incluir asuntos de minorías o estado de marginalización con respecto a raza, etnicidad, cultura, estado socioeconómico, uso del inglés como segundo idioma, género, orientación sexual, discapacidad, religión, espiritualidad y vejez. El Centro St. Francis propone desarrollar programas y prácticas que ayuden al personal, miembros de la junta directiva y voluntarios a reconocer, aceptar y afirmar las diferencias y similitudes entre la gente así como proveer servicios que apoyen e incluyan a todos los miembros de la comunidad.

Amazon Smile - Fundraiser



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