

THE BRIDGE



With open
arms for all!

EASTER SUNDAY - SOLEMNITY OF THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

APRIL 4, 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

*"He has been raised;
he is not here."
Alleluia! Alleluia!*



**Gospel Challenge: *How am I spreading the Light of
Christ each and every day of my life?***

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 3	<u>(L) Living +Deceased</u> Holy Saturday - Easter Vigil 7:00 PM +Saverio "Sammy" D'Amico +Bryan Connelly +Jean Cunningham +Anne McNiff Huey	Gn. 1:1-2:2; Ex. 14:15-15:1; Ez. 36:16-17a, 18-28; Rom. 6:3-11; Mk. 16:1-7	7:00 PM Live-Streaming Vigil Mass www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi St. Francis Parish & Center are CLOSED
Sunday, April 4	Easter Sunday 8:30 AM +Eugene & Lucille D'Amico +David & Kathleen Barndt +John & Rosa Primerano 10:00 AM +Fred Peters +Gladys Dzwonek +Jane & George Holland 11:30 AM +Patricia Kakstis	Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Col. 3:1-4; Mk. 16:1-7	10:00 AM Live-Streaming Mass www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi 12:30-1:00 PM "In car" Communion St. Francis Parish & Center are CLOSED
Monday, April 5	9:00 AM +Eugene D'Amico	Acts 2:14, 22-23; Mt. 28:8-15	St. Francis Parish Office only is CLOSED
Tuesday, April 6	9:00 AM +Anne McNiff Huey +Marco Boel	Acts 2:36-41; Jn. 20:11-18	
Wednesday, April 7	9:00 AM +James "Jack" Boti	Acts 3:1-10; Lk.24:13-25	10:30 AM Zoom Contemplative Living
Thursday, April 8	9:00 AM +Anne McNiff Huey	Acts 3:11-26; Lk. 24:35-48	
Friday, April 9	9:00 AM +Joseph E. Lanzl	Acts 4:1-12; Jn. 21:1-14	
Saturday, April 10	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	Divine Mercy Sunday 8:30 AM +Tami Vest 10:00 AM +Gerald F. Lee +Patrick Harrington +Mary Cicco 11:30 AM +George Russo 5:00 PM Mass of Remembrance	Acts 4:32-35; 1 Jn. 5:1-6; Jn. 20:19-31	10:00 AM Live-Streaming Mass www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi 12:30-1:00 PM "In car" Communion 1:00 PM OFS Fraternity Zoom Meeting

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

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS
Sunday, April 4	<u>(L) Living +Deceased</u> Easter Sunday 8:30 AM +Jo Vennwald +Hugh Flanagan +Bert Minnella 10:00 AM +James M. Kempski +Eugene & Eleanor Patten 11:30 AM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i>
Saturday, April 10	5:00 PM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i>
Sunday, April 11	8:30 AM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i> 10:00 AM +James M. Kempski

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

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS
Sunday, April 4	<u>(L) Living +Deceased</u> Easter Sunday 8:30 AM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i> 10:00 AM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i>
Saturday, April 10	5:00 PM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i>
Sunday, April 11	10:00 AM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i>



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:

St. Francis Parish Ministries: Music

Our Sunday celebration is at the heart of our life as a community of believers. One of the aspects of our Liturgy at St. Francis is the outstanding music program. In addition to coordinating quality music for all our Masses (19 in the summer) with good cantors & keyboard musicians, Michele Beck, our Music Coordinator, leads 3 inspirational choirs; the Adult, Teen/College & Children's Choirs. Thank you for your support of this very important part of our parish life.

Due to the early publishing deadline, collection totals will appear in the next bulletin.



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

The St. Francis Parish and Center will be CLOSED:
Good Friday, **April 2**; Holy Saturday, **April 3**;
and Easter Sunday, **April 4**
Parish Office only is CLOSED Monday, **April 5**.

A Letter From The Pastor...



Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!
Christos voskrese! Voistinu voskrese!

Years ago, a priest friend of mine, Fr. Bill, with faculties in the *Latin Rite* [ours] and in the *Ruthenian Greek Catholic Rite*, taught me the Easter Acclamation in Old Church Slavonic: “*Christos voskrese!*” to which one would respond, “*Voistinu voskrese!*” “Christ is Risen!” “Indeed, He is Risen!” It was the custom to greet others with this exchange during the Easter Season.

Sadly, that custom never lasted within the Latin Rite cultures. It certainly would change the way we live out the Easter Season, from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday. My intuition tells me that the Eastern Churches were able to capture the importance of what Easter is for those who believe.

Have you ever gotten to the point where life doesn't make sense, [hello 2020, +] or have you ever asked that proverbial question, “Why do bad things happen to good people?” If so, all we must do is look to today's celebration. Easter may not answer our questions, but it does offer us a new way to look at life and everything within it. As Christians, we would say that it is the *only* way to look at life and all that is within it. Jesus was crucified for political and religious reasons. It is one of the most inhuman ways to die. In Jesus' time, they believed that one who was “hung on a tree” was cursed by God. [Deuteronomy 21:22] So not only did Jesus have to endure a horrific execution they also made sure that even God would curse him.

Yet, despite the agony in Gethsemane, the painful crown, the lashes with a barbaric whip, and the humiliation of a crucifixion, God did not curse him. Rather, Easter shows us that God's power was mightier, is mightier, than anything evil or bad that befalls us.

Easter is not just a celebration of Spring with daffodils and tulips, but it is THE celebration that gives meaning to our lives and defines who we are.

For Christians, Easter is the only optic through which we see the world, our politics, our religion, and our lives.

On behalf of the friars, Sr. Pat, and the entire Pastoral Staff, we want to wish you a very Happy Easter. We pray that the hope that comes forth from this Feast of Feasts is always yours.

During this Easter season, we pray that God's powerful grace transform our pains and sorrows, our fears, our struggles and failures, our mourning, and our dying, into that which is life itself!

Christos voskrese! Voistinu voskrese!
Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!

Fr. Fran, OFM

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

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

Our parish has five certified Spiritual Directors offering *free* Spiritual Direction. If you think this might be a way for you to recognize God's actions in your daily 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,

Pat Simmons, ofs, (609) 661-1361.

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* meeting: **April 7**

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**



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.

Monthly Meetings:

St. Francis Center unless otherwise noted.



Order of the Franciscans Secular ofs

**Sunday, April 11, 1:00 PM
Fraternity "Zoom" Meeting**

Family Faith Formation



Judith Clayton, Director of FFF (Ext. 153)

jclayton@stfrancisbi.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/stfrancisparishlbi

"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@stfrancisbi.org

St. Francis Center is an EOE/AA Employer

Did You Know??

Did you know that we are an Equal Opportunity Employer (EOE/AA)?

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission enforces Federal laws prohibiting employment discrimination.

These laws protect employees and job applicants against employment discrimination when it involves:

Unfair treatment because of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy, gender identity, and sexual orientation), national origin, age (40 or older), disability or genetic information.

Harassment by managers, co-workers, or others in the workplace, because of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, age (40 or older), disability or genetic information.

Denial of a reasonable workplace accommodation that the employee needs because of religious beliefs or disability.

Retaliation because the employee complained about job discrimination or assisted with a job discrimination investigation or lawsuit.



O Lord, be present with these men and women who serve our country. Comfort their spirits with your divine presence and grant them strength, wisdom and grace.

SSgt. Stephen Ballinger
GySgt. Jason Benedict
GySgt. Ryan Benedict
Maj. Michael Berk
Lt. Col. Maureen Davis-Berk
PFC Thomas J. Bonder
LCDR Gary Brose, USN
Pvt. Matthew Cacace
Capt. Andrew Cairns
Spc. Nicholas Campoli
Sean Michael Campoli, USN
Maj. Robert Cunningham
PFC Tim Edwards
Lt. David Elsenbeck
Capt. Michael J. Elsenbeck, MD
Airman Patrick Esmerado
A1C Matt Fitzpatrick
Lt. Cmdr. Bob Gerstemeier
PFC Matthew Gurten
Sr. Airman John Hall
PFC Anthony Hardado
Lt. Cpl. Forrest Hendricks
Sgt. Matthew Hill
Lt. Cameron Hockman
Capt. Ryan Hughes
Tech Sgt. Bradley Iseminger
PO Anthony Juliano
Lt. Col. Michael Kloepper
Capt. Timothy Koenig
Pvt. Emily Jane Konzelmann
Sgt. Amanda A. Kuchta
Cpl. Travis Lastfogel
L Cpl. Cole Lattanzi

SSgt. Stephen Leddy
Spc. Jose Paul Lopes
1st Lt. Sean Patrick Mackenzie
2nd Lt. Christopher Martinelli
Lt. Cmdr. Daniel Martins
Sgt. Anthony Mauro
1st Lt. John McElvenny
1st Lt. Stephen McNamara
Lt. Vincent P. Moscatello, USN
Capt. Brendan Murphy
Capt. Catherine Murphy
SSgt. Conor Neil
Lt. John S. Ondik
Sgt. Kristopher Pickarts
Tyler Rallo, PFC
LTC Brett Robistow
Sr. Airman Christopher Rossi
Lt. Michael Rossi, Jr.
2nd Lt. Marc Schwartz
Michael Sheremeta E4 FT USN
PFC Kyle Stewart
Sgt. Robert Taylor
Sgt. Dillon Thiel
1st Lt. Shereen Thomas
2nd Lt. Cody Waits
Lt. Col. Thomas Walsh
Sgt. Alex Werner
Sgt. Brandan K. White
1st Lt. Daniel White
SSG Reid Wilbraham
Lt. Mark Woodard
Sr. Airman Arrian Youssefi

SPECIAL EVENTS

American Red Cross Blood Mobile

Tuesday, April 20th; 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.




Fish & Chip Dinner

Saturday June 12th; 4:30-7pm

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@stfrancislbj.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.



ST. FRANCIS COUNSELING SERVICE

GRANDPARENTING SUPPORT GROUP

Have you found yourself in a parenting role, raising your grandchild?
This FREE, 8-week confidential group provides a safe space for individuals to share their stories, receive support and develop coping skills.

VIRTUAL SUPPORT GROUP
MONDAYS, 2PM-4PM
Please call 609-494-1554 to register!
For more information or further questions, please ask to speak to Shannon or Karen.



ST. FRANCIS COUNSELING SERVICE
SEXUAL ABUSE AND ASSAULT PREVENTION PROGRAM
HONORS SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

Free Yoga Class

Attend a free all levels yoga with Sue Seiter to honor your mind and body and promote wellbeing!

April 8th at 5:30 PM
St. Francis Community Center
4700 Long Beach Boulevard
Long Beach Township, NJ
(In-person limited to 25 participants due to social distancing)
Participants can also choose to attend on Zoom!

Please call 609-494-1554 to register!



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.

Parenting AFTER

Join this FREE confidential group with other parents managing the world after your child has been sexually abused. Gain support, develop emotional coping skills and learn ways to understand and manage the post-trauma behaviors and emotions of your child.

Group will run for six weeks every Monday from 7:00 - 8:00 PM and will be held in Toms River, NJ. For information please call Nina Vitale, LPC, St. Francis Counseling Service, (609) 494-1554. Please note: *Group size is limited and registration is required.*

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.

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.

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.

Registration Session II

Monday, April 5

9:00 AM



Spring Swim Clinic Traditional (Ages 5-10)

Monday & Wednesday, 6:00 - 6:45 PM

April 5 - May 26



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

April 27 & 29

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 2:00 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

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Available Care 7:30 AM - 6:00 PM, 5 Days a Week

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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.

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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 - Harvey Cedars

Silent Directed / Private Retreat **Tuesday, May 4 - Monday, May 10**

Spiritual Director: Sr. Anita M. Constance SC

Registration due: **April 5**

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.

Coastal VIM Clinic - Volunteers in Medicine

Coastal Volunteers in Medicine is a free health clinic in Forked River serving the uninsured in our neighborhoods. We have recently increased our income eligibility level to accommodate families whose income falls within 300% of the federal poverty guidelines. Spanish translators are available and rides can be arranged for any patient without their own means of transportation. Appointments can be scheduled by calling (609) 384-0102.

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.

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.

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.

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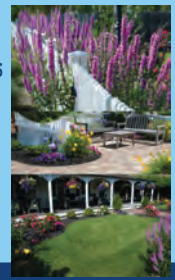
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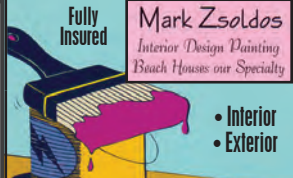
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