BRIDGE



With open arms for all!

All are welcome!

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



"I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from the sky and remain upon Him. (Jn. 1:32)

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS	READINGS	EVENTS
Saturday, January 14	(L) Living +Deceased 9:00 AM +Franciscan Mass League 3:30 - 4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM +Carol Henderson +Gary Shemrief +Jack Grundy	Heb. 4:12-16; Mk. 2:13-17 Is. 49:3, 5-6; 1 Cor. 1:1-3; Jn. 1:29-34	10:30 AM Contemplative Living, Zoom
Sunday, January 15	8:30 AM +Ronald Cohen +Tim Kelly 10:00 AM +Danny & Jimmy Cancro +Lottie & John Bencivenga 11:30 AM +Bruce Brodbeck	Is. 49:3, 5-6; 1 Cor. 1:1-3; Jn. 1:29-34	10:00 AM Live-Streaming Mass www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi
Monday, January 16	9:00 AM <i>Martin Luther King, Jr.</i> +Paul H. Wirth	1 Cor. 4:9-13; Mt. 10:16-22	Parish and Center is CLOSED
Tuesday, January 17	9:00 AM +Maria Poveda Perez	Heb. 6:10-20; Mk. 2:23-28	9:45 AM St. Anthony Novena 7:00 PM Adults for Confirmation, Rm. 212 7:00 PM Men's Cornerstone Plan., Surf City
Wednesday, January 18	9:00 AM +James J. Flanagan	Heb. 7:1-3, 15-17; Mk. 3:1-6	10:00 AM Scripture Study, location TBA 2:00 PM Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
Thursday, January 19	9:00 AM +Judy Pancoast	Heb. 7:25-8:6; Mk. 3:7-12	7:00 PM Survivors of Suicide, Room 212
Friday, January 20	9:00 AM +Ralph Polifroni	Heb. 8:6-13; Mk. 3:13-19	10:00 AM Knit/Crochet, Family Faith Office
Saturday, January 21	9:00 AM +Mary Lou Barry 3:30 - 4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM +Helen Foley	Heb. 9:2-3, 11-14; Mk. 3:20-21 Is. 8:23-9:3; 1 Cor. 1:10-13, 17; Mt. 4:12-23	10:00 AM Men's Spirituality, Sr. Lunch Rm.
Sunday, January 22	8:30 AM +Donna Weiss 10:00 AM +Victor Newman +Mae E. Kempski 11:30 AM +Frank Louis & Mary Aloia +Harold & Eleanor Schwind	Is. 8:23-9:3; 1 Cor. 1:10-13, 17; Mt. 4:12-23	10:00 AM Live-Streaming Mass www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi

Mass Schedule through March 25/26, 2023

St. Francis of Assisi, Brant Beach

9:00 AM Daily Mass

Reconciliation: 3:30-4:30 PM

Saturday, 5:00 PM; Sunday, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30 AM

Live-Streaming Mass - Sundays 10:00 AM www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi

St. Thomas of Villanova, Surf City - CLOSED

St. Thomas Aquinas, Beach Haven - CLOSED

St. Clare, Loveladies - CLOSED

Emergency Information

1. Call the main office (609) 494-8861. There will be a recording.

2. Check Facebook www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi St Francis of Assisi Parish for updates.

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

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

The St. Francis Parish and Center will be **CLOSED** on Monday, January 16th in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

A Letter From The Pastor...





Collections and Welcome

Now that the Christmas decorations are all tucked away and the New Year has begun, we find ourselves in Ordinary Time. We follow the "order" for just over a month until we begin our Lenten journey to Easter on Ash Wednesday. This year it falls on February 22.

However, before we put all of the holidays behind us I would like to *thank you* for your continued generosity to our great parish. As of Wednesday, January 11, the *Christmas Collection is* \$123,262 and the 2022 *Christmas Flower Fund collected* \$18,518. Thank you, Thank you! Both collections are a great reflection of your generosity and the goodness shared with our parish community.

You can find the 2022 Christmas Flower Fund Memorial on our parish website. (*www.stfrancisparishlbi.org*) This year we thought it more environmentally and economically friendly to post the memorial on our website rather than print copies.

I would also like to thank those who contributed to the *Annual Catholic Appeal*. This collection helps to fund the operations and initiatives of the Diocese of Trenton. At the end of the year, your generosity pledged \$57,123.38 to the diocese. On behalf of Bp. O'Connell, I would to thank you for your support of our diocese.

As you know by now, we do a lot of fund raising. We need the Festival of the Sea, the Car Raffle, and all the other fundraisers and collections to pay our bills. I am happy to share with you that *Joana Schmidt* will be joining the Pastoral Staff as our new Director of Parish Development. This position was create in 2021 to help coordinate all of our fundraising initiatives with the intention to review and evaluate what we are doing as well as explore other opportunities that can help advance the mission of our parish.

Joana is no stranger to the parish. She served as a catechist for over 6 years and has most recently served as the part time Director of Religious Education at St. Theresa's Church, Little Egg Harbor. I suppose it was through her working in religious education for so many years that she has also picked up some of the skills needed to create a plan for development and fundraising. She has a great love for our Franciscan Spirituality and for St. Francis Parish and Center. Joana will be starting her new position with us in a few weeks. As a great example of her dedication and determination, she will continue to work a day and half a week at St. Theresa's as they transition to a new director. Welcome Joana!

May God continue to bless you and your families with peace and all that is good. May the you hold onto the holy moments of 2022 as we all go forth to create new ones in 2023.

Fr. Francis Di Spigno, OFM Pastor

Parish Information - (609) 494-8813

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

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

Parish Registration: The Parish Office is located on the second floor of St. Francis Community Center, 4700 Long Beach Blvd., Long Beach Twp., NJ. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The office is closed for lunch from 12:00 to 1:00 PM. Please notify the Parish Office as soon as possible if you are moving.

Baptism: The sacrament is celebrated three times a month at St. Francis Parish. Group Baptisms are the 2nd Saturday at 10:00 AM and the last Sunday at 12:45 PM each month at St. Francis Church in Brant Beach. Baptisms during Mass are celebrated on the 3rd Sunday of each month at the last Mass in each Church. Call the Parish Office for availability and requirements: (609) 494-8813 ext. 154 or 155.

<u>Family Faith:</u> For children in grades one through eight. Please call Judith Clayton at (609) 494-8813 ext. 153 for more information.

Marriage: In accordance with the Common Policy of the five Dioceses of New Jersey, arrangements must be made ONE YEAR in advance. Couples are required to attend Marriage Preparation classes. Weddings are performed on Friday or Saturday. Weddings are NOT performed on Sundays, the beach, Memorial Day, Fourth of July or Labor Day weekends.

<u>Pastoral Visitations</u>: 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

Tarisit Office			
Michele Beck, Director, Musicmbeck@stfrancislbi.org			
Fr. Scott Brookbank, OFMsbrookbank@stfrancislbi.org			
Judith Clayton, Director, Family Faith Formationjclayton@stfrancis.org			
Deacon Robert Cunninghamthatbrotherbob@aol.com			
Fr. Kevin Daly, OFMkdaly@stfrancislbi.org			
Fr. Francis DiSpigno, OFM, Pastorfdispigno@stfrancislbi.org			
Fr. John Frambes, OFMjframbes@stfrancislbi.org			
Sr. Patricia McNiff, OSFsrpat@stfrancislbi.org			
Jo Anne Reeder, Director, Worshipjreeder@stfrancislbi.org			
Fr. Andrew Reitz, OFMareitz@stfrancislbi.org			
Sr. Pat Klemm, OSF (in-residence)srpatklemm@gmail.com			
Marie Maslanka, Parish Secretarymhuber@stfrancislbi.org			
Parish Office - (609) 494-8813,			
Monday - Friday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM (Closed for lunch 12:00 - 1:00 PM)			
Family Faith Famorian (600) 404 9912 and 152			

Family Faith Formation - (609) 494-8813 ext. 153

St. Francis Center

Community Center - (609) 494-8861 Children's Services - (609) 494-8861 ext. 114 Counseling Services - (609) 494-1554 Educational & Career Services - (609) 494-8861 ext. 407 Family Support Services - (609) 494-8861 Food Pantry - (833) 511-0760 Recreation & Aquatics - (609)494-8861 ext. 105 Senior Services - (609) 494-8861 ext. 108 or 109

Parish Finance Council

Cecelia Fowler	201 264 5965 cgfowler413@gmail.com
Fr. Andrew Reitz, OFM	609 494 8861 areitz@stfrancislbi.org
Angelo Rinaldi	609 661 9052 clamlbi@comcast.net
Fr. Francis Di Spigno, OFM	609 494 8861 fdispigno@stfrancislbi.org
Jay Pojednic	609 709 2007 jdpojednic@comcast.net
Joe Hummel	609 868 2930 ejhjr@comcast.net
Joe Mack	609 492 1659 josephmack2008@comcast.net
Joe Vaszily	jmpv127@gmail.com
Peter Williams	603 714 4014 peter.l.williams9@gmail.com
Stacey Kelsall, Comptroller	609 494 8861 skelsall@stfrancislbi.org
· ·	

Appeals Box

Friar's Infirmary

The Friar's who serve you all belong to the Franciscan Province of the Holy Name. The elderly men in our community receive excellent care at Holy Name Friary in Ringwood, NJ. This collection helps cover the costs of caring for those men who cared so much during their lives of active ministry. Thank you for your generosity.

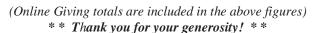
Second Collection:

Interfaith Health & Support Services

Collected: \$6,140 This Week We Need: Budgeted: \$20,000

Last Week's Collection: Collected: \$19,505

Budgeted: \$20,000





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

ANNUAL

The 2021 Annual Catholic Appeal raised over \$6 million. 2022 Annual Catholic Appeal began February 19/20. Goal this year is \$6.5 million.

Goal: \$100.000.00

Total Pledged: \$57,123.38 (57% of Goal) Total Collected: \$56,611.38 (57% of Goal)

Total Donors: 207 **Total Gifts:** 236 \$242.05 Average Gift:

Thank you for your generosity in contributing to the Annual Catholic Appeal. It was greatly appreciated! We look forward to your continued support.

Visit the parish website for a YouTube video on the Annual Catholic Appeal by Bishop O'Connell at: www.stfrancisparishlbi.org/annual-catholic-appeal

St. Francis Liturgical Community

Family Faith



Mary Lou Ligus, Administrative Assistant (Ext. 179) Marion Pierri, Registration & Tuition Coordinator (Ext. 177)

Gospel Inspirations:



"Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world."

We hear John the Baptist's greeting of Jesus at every Mass just before Communion.

May we join with John in bearing witness to the One we encounter in the Eucharist. Jesus has come. He is here. Embrace Him.

Adults For Confirmation



Sr. Pat on January 17 at 7:00 PM in Room 212. For further information about celebrating the Sacrament, please contact Sr. Pat at (609) 494-8861 ext. 157.



Franciscan Spiritual Center Presents:



Spiritual Direction



The "Direction" part of the term Spiritual Direction can be off-putting, even for us as directors. This process is not about one person telling the other what to do – "directing" them. Spiritual companionship or soul-friending might be a better term. "Spiritual Direction" has stuck

for some reason, but as Thomas Keating advises: "It is not so much being told what to do as being encouraged to do what we know God and our conscience are asking us to do."

A spiritual director has been trained to listen to the person they are with in collaboration with the Holy Spirit. Thus, one often sees a picture of three chairs to symbolize the process, one for the director, one for the seeker and one for the Spirit! One on one meetings with you can be in person, by video call or phone call. Like to know more? Contact one of the certified spiritual directors in the parish:

Maryann Barrek, (609) 661-4441 Anne Bock, (609) 204-3835 Kathy Egan, (215) 694-4651 Mary Lou Jacoby, (732) 995-6917 Pat Simmons, (609) 661-661-1361

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. In these experiences we support each other in our prayer and faith. We meet by *Zoom* on the first Wednesday of each month at 10:30 AM - write Kathy Egan (klegan.chaplain@gmail.com) for the link.

On the second Saturday of the month we meet in person in the Senior Lounge of the Community Center at 9:45 AM when we also have a presentation. We always welcome new folks to join us! Next zoom sessions - January 14

Men's Spirituality Group

The Men's Spirituality Group meets in the Senior Lunch Room on the third Saturday of each month from 10:00 - 11:00 AM. Seating is limited. Please contact Deacon Bob or Father Fran to reserve your place. Next scheduled meeting: January 21, 10:00 AM, Sr. Lunch Room

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament



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

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, **February 8**, 9:30 AM, Brant Beach Church

<u>Book Club</u>

We will meet in person at St. Francis Center in the Knight Wing Conference Room, (Room 212) on the last Tuesday of the month from 1:30-2:30 PM. *The Measure* by Nikki Erlick. Next meeting Tuesday, **January 31**, 1:30 PM, Room 212.

Knitting & Crocheting Circle

Meets weekly on Fridays, 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon, in the Family Faith Office. For more information please contact Fr. Scott at (609) 494-8813.

Next meeting Friday, January 20, 10:00 AM, Family Faith Office

Men's Cornerstone Planning Meeting

Meets weekly on Tuesdays, beginning at 7:00 PM, First meeting Tuesday, **January 17**, 7:00 PM, Surf City Church Hall

Order of the Franciscans Secular ofs

Sunday, March 5, 12:30 PM Spiritual Life, Fraternity Meeting, Brant Beach Church Hall.

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 January 18, 10:00 AM, location to be announced..

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



Embrace Our Way of Life

THE FRANCISCAN FRIARS OF HOLY NAME PROVINCE Franciscan Vocation Ministry Br. Basil Valente, OFM

129 West 31st Street, 2nd Fl., New York, NY 10001-3403 1-800-677-7788 www.BeAFranciscan.org



Join us for a Pilgrimage in the Footsteps of St. Paul

GREECE & THE GREEK ISLES

11 DAYS: SEPTEMBER 19-29, 2023

VISITING: ATHENS * CORINTH * MYKONOS * EPHESUS PATMOS * SANTORINI * DELPHI * KALAMBAKA * THESSALONIKI Including a 3-Day Cruise to the Greek Isles & Turkey



FR. ANDREW REITZ, OFM \$3899 FROM NEW YORK*

*Air/land tour price is \$3379 plus \$520 gov't taxes/airline surcharges

For More Information, Please Contact : Fr. Andrew Reitz Tel: (917) 275-5593 Email: areitz@stfrancislbi.org

SPACE IS LIMITED! SIGN UP TODAY!!!

Greece Pilgrimage: Information Meeting Monday, January 23rd at 7:00 PM in the Center

There will be a meeting regarding the September Pilgrimage to Greece: "Following in the footsteps of St. Paul." This Pilgrimage is scheduled for **September 19 to 29**. The meeting will review the itinerary, cost and other details. It will be held St. Francis Center. All are welcome!

What's Your New Year's Resolution?



Men's Cornerstone Retreat March 10th & 11th

Maris Stella Retreat Center - Harvey Cedars Registration Brochures in Church Lobby

Prison Ministry in Our Parish

" I was in prison and you came to visit me... I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." (*Matthew 25:36, 40*)

There is a prison ministry being started in the Parish. The ministry will bring Eucharist and review the Gospel readings from Sunday Mass. We will be visiting the Ocean County jail in Toms River. Anyone interested please contact Jim Collery *icollery@gmail.com*.

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*

Employment Opportunity

*Full-time positions are offered Health Care, Paid time off (with additional earning for years of service), 15 Paid Holidays, Life Insurance, 403B (retirement plan) w/ company match, & more.



* Part-time positions are offered Paid sick time, Paid Holidays (excluding seasonal/variable) and Employee Discounts.

Community Center Counseling Services

Positions: Full time Licensed Counselor and
Full-time or Part-time Bilingual (Fluent English/Spanish) Licensed
Counselor

<u>Days:</u> Monday through Friday (Some evening hours required) Must complete 40-hour Confidential Sexual Violence Advocate Training (provided free of charge by the agency). On-site clinical supervision is provided.

Must have Current Professional License: LSW, LAC, LPC or LCSW.

Community Center and Parish

Special Events and Volunteer Coordinator

Position: Full time, 40 hours week. The coordinator is responsible for planning, organizing, and implementing Special Events for the Community Center and Parish as well as developing new events and fundraisers. The coordinator will be responsible for recruiting new volunteers from among the parish, the center, and from the larger LBI community. This position is also responsible for overseeing and assigning volunteers for special events and for various programs throughout the Center and Parish. Applicant must be proficient in Microsoft Office. Must have Valid Driver's License and be able to lift at least 40lbs. Expertise in communication, social engagement, and working cooperatively with others.

<u>Days:</u> Monday- Friday, attendance at various night and weekend events is required

Parish

Position: Director of Parish Development, Full time position This position is responsible for planning, organizing, administering, and evaluating the fund raising initiatives and special events for the St Francis Parish. Prefer a bachelor's degree and experience in management and fundraising. Applicants should have good communication skills and computer skills including, Microsoft Office, website management, and the ability to manage multiple social media pages. Applicants must be able to lift 30lbs and have a valid Driver's License. Attendance at Sunday liturgies and Holy days is encouraged.

Davs/Hours: Monday- Friday, with attendance at Evening/weekend events required

<u>Position:</u> <u>Director of Young Adult and Youth Ministry</u>, Full time position.

Previous experience as a volunteer or intern providing services in a parish youth ministry program preferred. Responsible for reaching out to our parish young adults and to our post confirmation young people to create a vibrant, inspiring, and relevant faith based program that will foster spiritual and faith based growth. Responsible for recruiting volunteers, coordinating outreach service projects and participating in other parish activities. Must be capable of administrative tasks such as developing and managing the program's budget. Must have excellent communication and leadership skills, and must be an active and participating Catholic. Bachelor's degree required-Theology or Religious Studies or related field

Days: Monday-Friday with some evenings and weekends required

**Background check & fingerprinting required for all employees 18 yrs. & older.

Please send resumes to abodine@stfrancislbi.org

St. Francis Center is an EOE/AA Employer

SPECIAL EVENTS





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 Diary-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**

Donations needed for the Food Pantry:

Pasta, Jarred Pasta Sauce, Pancake Mix, Snacks.
Canned Goods: Corn, Peas, Baked Beans, Black Beans,
Spaghettios, Beef Stew, Canned Chicken, Soup, Coffee, Tea,
Hot Chocolate, Juice Boxes, Ensure/Boost
Laundry Detergent, Shampoo, Body Wash/Soap, Toilet
Paper, Feminine Products

Donations for the Food Pantry can be left in the bins marked "donation" in the front of the Community Center. If you would like to make a monetary donation to the Food Pantry it can be made through our website: http://stfranciscenterlbi.org/donate via PayPal.

Family Support Services:

To learn more about our programs visit our website at http://stfranciscenterlbi.org

- Parenting & Anger Management Groups
- Auto Ownership
- Parents As Teachers
- Maintaining the Integrity of Spanish Speaking Families

Did You Know??

The 19th Annual Super Plunge is right around the corner! On Saturday February 11th courageous men, women, AND KIDS will take the icy plunge into the cold February Atlantic, a tradition that dates back over one hundred years ago to the Scandinavians! Our registration has begun and will continue through the day of the event. Students are \$20 and Adults are \$30. "Plungers" will meet at the Community Center and walk up to the 48th street beach together before they take on the challenge. Plunging into icy water can be done for health, fun, charity or just to strike it from your bucket list or if you missed a New Year's Day plunge, you can head to the Center and register today!

All proceeds benefit St Francis Community Center and the Southern Regional High School Swim Teams

Recreation & Aquatics

For info. please call ext. 105. Visit the **Fall/Winter 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 & 2 swim lessons,
Intermediate & Advanced,
Aquatic Zumba Aerobics,
Aqua Zumba/Arthritis Aquatic Exercise,
Aquatic Exercise.

Recreation:

Tot & Tyke Basketball with Coach Manzo, All Level Yoga, Tennis Fundamentals (ages 5-12).

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. <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

Employment & Career Services

For information call ext. 407.

Adult Education ProgramFirst Step to Self SufficiencyNext Step to Employment

All participants must be verified for eligibility through the Ocean County PIC Office. Programs funded through a grant provided by the Ocean County Department of Human Services. For additional information call: (732) 281-8653

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.



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 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



May 14-23, 2023

British Landscapes Featuring England, Scotland and Wales

Behold the Crown Jewels of Scotland on a guided tour of Edinburgh Castle, discover the narrow Snickelway lanes of York, explore Wales during a tour of the picturesque village of Llangollen in addition to the ruins of an ancient fort during a visit to Hadrian's Wall. Enjoy Stratford upon Avon and Oxford before ending your British adventure with two nights in London. Rate per person double including airfare from Newark \$3,799.00.

October 11-19, 2023

Egypt and Nile Cruise

Have you always wanted to take a camel ride by the Pyramids or a hot air balloon ride over the Nile while cruising these ancient ports? Spend two nights in Cairo visiting the National Museum, the Great Pyramids of Giza, the enigmatic Sphinx along with a camel ride. Visit Old Cairo. Fly to Luxor and board the H/S Nebu for a four night Nile cruise visiting Karnak and Luxor Temple, Valley of the Kings, Hatshepsut, Edfu, Kom Ombo and more. Breakfast daily and full board while cruising. Rate per person double occupancy is at \$3,988.00. Airfare pricing will be available in January.

November 2-12, 2023

10 night Ultimate Southern Caribbean Cruise Celebrity Reflection

Cruise round trip from Fort Lauderdale in a balcony cabin visiting: Antigua, Barbados, Grenada, Martinique St. Kitts & Nevis. Our special "always included" package incorporates your stateroom in a balcony, all current port and government taxes, all meals, beverage package, Wi-Fi and gratuities. Rate per person is at \$2,069.00.

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.

Community Bulletin Board

Francis House of Prayer

84 Walnford Rd., Allentown, NJ 08501

One Day - STOKING THE FLAME WITHIN

Friday, **January 20**, 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM

On this day, give yourself the time, space and quiet to be present to the fire of God's love for you! Donation: \$20

LOVERS OF THÉRÈSE

Wednesday, January 18, 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM

St. Thérèse of Lisieux is a masterful teacher of living ordinary life with extraordinary love. We will use *The Little Way for Everyday* by Francis Broome, CSP, to help us listen to St. Thérèse's message. Donation: \$35, includes lunch and book; Zoom: \$20.

Series - THE POWER OF YOUR STORY 5 Mondays, 1:00 – 3:00 PM

January 16 February 13 March 13 April 17 May 15

Using the wisdom of Ignatian Spirituality, as shared in Eric Clayton's book, *Cannonball Moments*, give yourself the gift of delving ever more deeply into the heart of *your* spiritual story. Donation: \$100

SPIRITUAL SORORITY 5 Tuesdays 9:30 – 11:30 AM

January 17 February 7 March 7 April 4 May 2

Allow Edwina Gately's poetry to become a doorway into the spirit found in twelve of our biblical sisters. Discover in them your own timeless wisdom. We will use Edwina's book *Soul Sisters*. Donation: \$100

SILENT DIRECTED RETREAT WEEKENDS 7:00 PM Friday to 1:00 PM Sunday

January 13-15 February 10-12 February 24-26

Liturgy, spiritual direction, and optional contemplative prayer periods are included. Please register early. These fill quickly. Donation: \$165/\$65 non-refundable deposit with registration.

Please check <u>www.FHOP.org</u> for dates, registration, directions and for our other offerings!

All programs will be offered online and in-person unless otherwise indicated.

St. Mary Academy

400 Doc Cramer Blvd., Manahawkin, NJ

YOU ARE INVITED

Open house, Tuesday, January 31, 9:30-11:30 AM & 6:30-8:30 PM

Please join us to learn about the unique opportunities our school provides to help your children become critical thinkers and problem solvers in an academically rich and faith filled environment. Refreshments will be served. We look forward to seeing you!

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Retrouvaille Weekend, February 3 – 5, 2023

Stress In Your Marriage? Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage? Are you frustrated, hurt or angry with your spouse? Have you thought about separation or divorce? Does talking about it only make it worse? RETROUVAILLE consists of a weekend experience for married couples (no group discussions) with six follow-up sessions. The upcoming weekend is **February 3 – 5, 2023**. All inquiries are confidential. For further information, please contact Rich Colasuonno 732-236-0671 or Annette Colasuonno 732-672-0748 or email

3024@helpourmarriage.org.

Retrouvaille Weekend, February 10-12, 2023

RETROUVAILLE: REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program begins the weekend of **February 10 - 12, 2023** at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230.

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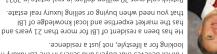
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