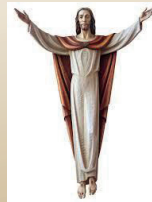


THE BRIDGE



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

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



Photo by Canva.com

*“The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph,
and the infant lying in the manger.” (Lk. 2:16)*

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

JANUARY 1, 2023

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

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS	READINGS	EVENTS
Saturday, December 31	<u>(L) Living +Deceased</u> 9:00 AM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i> 3:30 - 4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM Solemnity of Mary - Vigil +Dorothy M. Keegan	1 Jn. 2:18-21; Jn. 1:1-18 Nm. 6:22-27; Gal. 4:4-7; Lk. 2:16-21	
Sunday, January 1	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God 8:30 AM +Edward Pottichen +Bill Larkey 10:00 AM +Frances Collins +Bruce Brodbeck 11:30 AM +James M. Kempfski +Louise Padovano	Nm. 6:22-27; Gal. 4:4-7; Lk. 2:16-21	10:00 AM <i>Live-Streaming Mass</i> www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi Parish and Center is CLOSED
Monday, January 2	9:00 AM +Linda Cerqua	1 Jn. 2:22-28; Jn. 1:19-28	Parish and Center is CLOSED
Tuesday, January 3	9:00 AM +Robert McAllister	1 Jn. 2:29-3:6; Jn. 1:29-34	9:45 AM St. Anthony Novena 7:00 PM Men's Cornerstone Plan., Surf City
Wednesday, January 4	9:00 AM +Jerry Rooney	1 Jn. 3:7-10; Jn. 1:35-42	2:00 PM Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 10:00 AM Scripture Study 10:30 AM Contemplative Living, Zoom
Thursday, January 5	9:00 AM +Donna Weiss +Pasquale Colavita	1 Jn. 3:11-21; Jn. 1:43-51	
Friday, January 6	9:00 AM +Bert Stahlberg	1 Jn. 5:5-13; Lk. 3:23-28	10:00 AM Knit/Crochet, Family Faith Office
Saturday, January 7	9:00 AM +John Gazo 3:30 - 4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM +Donald DeLotto +Diane Fleishinger, <i>ofs</i>	1 Jn. 5:14-21; Jn. 2:1-11 Is. 60:1-6; Eph. 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt. 2:1-12	9:45 AM Contemplative Living, Zoom 7:00 PM Life Ministry, BB Church
Sunday, January 8	8:30 AM +Michael Natale +Diane Fleishinger, <i>ofs</i> 10:00 AM +Marianne Gaudia +Bruce Brodbeck 11:30 AM +James M. Kempfski +Scott Collins +Richard Doyle, <i>ofs</i>	Is. 60:1-6; Eph. 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt. 2:1-12	10:00 AM <i>Live-Streaming Mass</i> www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi 12:30 PM Order of Secular Franciscan OFS

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](https://www.instagram.com/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

St. Francis Parish and Center will be CLOSED:

Sunday, January 1, and
Monday, January 2, 2023
in observance of New Year's Day.



A Letter From The Pastor...



Fr. Francis Di Spigno, OFM,
Pastor

Letter from the Pastor

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the
Mother of God

January 1, 2023

Mary, Mother of God

*Mary kept all these things,
reflecting on them in her heart. [Luke 2:19]*

Today's Gospel begins with the Shepherds recounting their story to Joseph and Mary after they found "the infant laying in the manger" and Mary held all that she heard in her heart. We can only imagine what was going on in her heart. The heart of a mother is like none other.

Today, we begin a new year and we hold many things in our hearts. I suspect that one of those is the hope for a good year to come. A hope for peace in our world. Perhaps there are some who hope for peace in their families, or even in their own hearts.

I'm not sure where I first heard this quote from the 17th Century Dutch philosopher, Baruch Spinoza, but he wrote, "Peace is not the absence of war, it is a virtue, a state of mind, a disposition of benevolence, confidence, justice."

We might not be able to control the war in Ukraine or in all the other places in our world but we do have some control over the "wars" in our culture and in our lives. If we could hold Spinoza's idea of peace in our heart, then the ripples begin and it starts to effect those around us. Peace becomes real.

We are not totally helpless. Neither was Mary or Joseph. They were people of faith who believed that God would be true to God's word and the trusted, and they changed the world, and it began in a little manger.

May the world soon know the peace of God's kingdom, and may we help to make it so.

On behalf of the entire Parish Staff, may you have a blessed and peaceful New Year and may we all work to make the peace of Christ real in our midst.

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.

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

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

Pastoral Visitations: Please notify the Parish Office if you or any of your loved ones are ill, homebound, in SOMC, nursing homes or rehabilitation centers.

Parish Office

Michele Beck, Director, Music.....mbeck@stfrancislbi.org
Fr. Scott Brookbank, OFM.....sbrookbank@stfrancislbi.org
Judith Clayton, Director, Family Faith Formation...jclayton@stfrancislbi.org
Deacon Robert Cunningham.....thatbrotherbob@aol.com
Fr. Kevin Daly, OFM.....kdaly@stfrancislbi.org
Fr. Francis DiSpigno, OFM, Pastor.....fdispigno@stfrancislbi.org
Fr. John Frambes, OFM.....jframbes@stfrancislbi.org
Sr. Patricia McNiff, OSF.....srpat@stfrancislbi.org
Jo Anne Reeder, Director, Worship.....jreeder@stfrancislbi.org
Fr. Andrew Reitz, OFM.....areitz@stfrancislbi.org
Sr. Pat Klemm, OSF (in-residence).....srpatklemm@gmail.com
Marie Maslanka, Parish Secretary.....mhuber@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 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

Newly Baptized, Registered, Married, Deceased

November, December 2022

Baptized:

Quinn Geraldine McManus
Quinn Avery Brennan
Rowan James Smith
Josephine Taylor Slezak

Noelle Christine Kaminski
Ayden Shawn Murphy
Evan Grey Smith

Registered:

Brian and Gloria Deverin
John and Kathy Mazzullo
The Gemignani Family
Joseph and Virginia Yacovone
The Sherry Family
Jennifer Kovaly
Marguerita McCabe
James and Carla Ciulla
Ellen and Thomas Lucas
William and Christine DeJianne
The Rybka Family
Bob and Judy McAndrew
Ted and Karen Bragg
Matthew Kalczynski

The Fizulich Family
John and Maria Gatens
Bruno and Remigia Czerwonka
Vincent and Barbara Bellezza
Michael and Pamela Bowman
Emery and Geri Dupuis
The Kawash Family
Robert and Lydia Domolki
Charles and Kathryn Goeke
The Mannarino Family
Joseph and Michelle Pallante
Les and Jeanne Szekely
Steven and Rebecca Williamson

Married:

Francis Lill IV and Avery Hodgson
Saverio Parrotta and Victoria Bellafiore
Matthew Kenney and Jannah Tabbacchino
Frank Ferrara and Stephanie Lebak

Deceased:

Florence Byrne
Margaret Davis
Nenad "Nick" Jozanovic
Derek Chapman
Evelyn Thomas
George Sansverie
Patricia Willem Downs

Thomas Fitzpatrick
Anthony Sauchelli
Genaro Salzano
John Paul Grundy 11
Donna Weiss
Joanne Curry
Dolores K. Smith

Gospel Inspirations:

"And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart."



Sometimes the best response to the most amazing experience is quiet reflection. Awe and wonder and quiet. Mary is a model of humility, love, and acceptance of God's plan.

Mary, Mother of Peace, help us bring peace to our own hearts and to our world.

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.

Appeals Box

Second Collection:

Solemnity of Mary envelope

Utilities

All of us are concerned about the rising cost of utility bills. We here at St. Francis are not immune from those increases and we need your assistance to ensure that we cover our utility expenses. Please be generous.

This Week We Need:

Budgeted: **\$23,000**

December 24/25 Collection:

Collected: **\$77,303**

Budgeted: **\$50,000**



December 24/25 Second Collection:

St. Francis Parish Ministries - Music

Collected: **\$11,137**

December 17/18 Collection:

Collected: **\$19,099**

Budgeted: **\$23,000**

December 17/18 Second Collection:

Church Building & Grounds Maintenance

Collected: **\$5,373**

(Online Giving totals are included in the above figures)

**** Thank you for your generosity! ****



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

ANNUAL CATHOLIC Appeal 2022

What does **LOVE** have to do with it... *everything!*

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: **\$56,248.38** (56% of Goal)

Total Collected: **\$55,724.38** (56% of Goal)

Total Donors: **205**

Total Gifts: **232**

Average Gift: **\$242.45**

**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

Judith Clayton, Director of Family Faith (Ext. 153)
jclayton@stfrancislbj.org
Mary Lou Ligus, Administrative Assistant (Ext. 179)
Marion Pierri, Registration & Tuition Coordinator (Ext. 177)



Life Ministry Presents

A LIFE CHANGING PRAYER SERVICE

Are you seeking some faith filled resolutions?
Want to keep God first in the new year and in your life?
Looking for kindred spirits to share your faith, hope
and beliefs?

Come pray with us and welcome the Holy Spirit
as a guiding light.

January 5th at 7:00 PM
Brant Beach church

A Reflection on the Feast of the Holy Family

"the shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem, and found Mary and Joseph and the infant lying in the manger." Luke 2:16

Today we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family. Family life is precious to God. Mary and Joseph persevered as a couple experiencing joyous and difficult times. Through these times, they trusted God. Mary and Joseph knew it was important for Jesus to be raised in a loving family. Love, sacrifice, and forgiveness were at the center of their lives. With God's help, Mary, Joseph, and Jesus grew strong as a family.

In the life of our families, there will be times of joy and times of difficulty. If a family is to grow strong, what is needed, is love, understanding, and forgiveness. When you pray for help and guidance, trust that Jesus does hear your prayer.

A Parishioner

Adults For Confirmation Come and See

Anyone 18 years of age or older
who has been baptized
and would like to celebrate Confirmation
is invited to meet with

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.



St. Francis of Assisi Parish Advent and Christmas Season Liturgies and Services 2022-23 All Liturgies in Brant Beach Unless otherwise noted.

- Weekend Mass Schedules
Saturdays – 5:00PM
Sundays – 8:30AM, 10:00AM, 11:30AM
- **Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God**
Vigil Saturday **December 31st** 5:00PM
Solemnity **January 1st**, 2023 Sunday
8:30AM, 10:00AM, 11:30AM
- **The Epiphany of the Lord**
January 7th Saturday 5:00PM,
January 8th Sunday
8:30am, 10:00AM, 11:30AM



The Rosary Project

St. Francis Parish Women's Cornerstone
ladies are now collecting gently used
rosaries to clean and re-package and
send to hospital patients.

Please place your donation
of used rosaries
in the collection basket
in the lobby of the
Brant Beach Church
and we thank you!



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 Coltery jcoltery@gmail.com.



Praying the Rosary

St. Francis of Assisi Church Brant Beach
Monday through Saturday, 8:20 AM



Franciscan Spiritual Center Presents:



Spiritual Direction

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

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

An Invitation to Contemplative Living

Our times together invite us into prayerful reading and discussion of Scripture or other spiritual writing through Lectio Divina or "Divine Reading" and a period of silent prayer. 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 4 & 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**

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, **January 11**, 9:30 AM, Brant Beach Church

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 6**, 10:00 AM, Family Faith Office

Men's Cornerstone Planning Meeting

Meets **weekly on Tuesdays**, beginning at 7:00 PM,
First meeting Tuesday, **January 3**, 7:00 PM, Surf City Church Hall

Order of the Franciscans Secular ofs

Sunday, **January 8**, 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 4**, 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


DIOCESE OF
TRENTON
Office of Pastoral Life and Mission

**STANDING TOGETHER
FOR Life**

December 13, 2022

Dear Reverend Fathers,

For fifty years, Catholics from the Diocese of Trenton have participated in the March for Life in Washington, DC. This year with the Supreme Court decision overturning Roe vs. Wade there is some sense of accomplishment, but we know there is so much work still to be done.

Today I am writing to ask you, if you are not going to Washington for the March for Life on Friday January 20, 2023, to please make a special effort to gather with Bishop O'Connell and the Catholic faithful of our Diocese "Standing Together for Life." We are preparing special events for this day and are hoping to gather clergy, religious and laity from all parishes, schools, organizations and partner agencies at the Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine, Freehold.

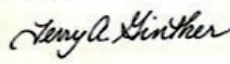
- Mass will begin at 11 a.m. All are welcome.
- Lunch & Seminar from 12:30 – 3:30 pm, featuring author Charles Camosy in Dentic Hall.


Advance registration for the lunch and seminar is required. Register Today!
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/standing-together-for-life-tickets-464741041967>

This year, with the Dobbs decision returning the issue of abortion to the states to decide, we recognize a special opportunity to refocus our local efforts more broadly on building a culture of life. You know the headwinds we face here in New Jersey. It will take all of us **Standing Together for Life**, putting aside our differences to act with love and compassion, to change hearts and minds. You are essential to these efforts, as are your parish social outreach ministries, respect life committees, and organizations.

I hope you and some of your parishioners will join us for Mass on January 20 and register to participate in the seminar. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,




Mrs. Terry Giotber
Chancellor and Executive Director for Pastoral Life & Mission
enclosure

SCAN TO REGISTER



701 Lawrenceville Road, Trenton, NJ 08648
Phone: 609-403-7143 • Fax: 609-406-7456 • tgioth@dioceseoftrenton.org


**STANDING TOGETHER
FOR Life**

On **Jan. 20, 2023**, the faithful of the Diocese of Trenton
will come together in prayer and solidarity to
proclaim the sanctity of all human life.

 All are invited to a *Mass for Life*
CELEBRATED BY **Bishop David M. O'Connell, C.M.** 


St. Robert Bellarmine Co-Cathedral, Freehold • Beginning at 11 a.m.

Mass will be livestreamed on  [Youtube.com/trentondiocese](https://www.youtube.com/trentondiocese)

Lunch and seminar to follow - From 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.
FEATURING AUTHOR AND SPEAKER **Dr. Charles Camosy** 
TOPIC: **Bringing the Church together to Build a Culture of Life**

This is an event for all, especially clergy, Respect Life groups and ministry groups who assist the poor and marginalized, including food pantries, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Catholic Charities, Knights of Columbus and more.

ADVANCED REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR LUNCH AND SEMINAR • DEADLINE JANUARY 10, 2023

For more information and to register visit
dioceseoftrenton.org/standing-together-for-life or scan the QR code
 Additional questions may be sent to james@dioceseoftrenton.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

Days: 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.

Days: 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.

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

Position: Director of Young Adult and Youth Ministry, 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@stfrancislbj.org

St. Francis Center is an EOE/AA Employer

SPECIAL EVENTS

ST. FRANCIS COMMUNITY CENTER & PARISH

4700 LONG BEACH BLVD. LONG BEACH TWP, NJ 08008 609-494-8861



ANNIVERSARY 50th
PROGRESSIVE 50/50

SUPPORT THE
CENTER

Please make your check payable to St. Francis Parish & Center and indicate "50th Anniversary Progressive 50/50" on the envelope /No phone purchases permitted.

Name: _____
Phone: _____

Street Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____
Zip: _____

Email: _____
Would you like to be on our mailing list? Yes / No

of Books Requested (\$10 each) _____
Total Amount Enclosed: _____

Did You Know??

In addition to assisting families with food, the St. Francis Human Concerns Program also holds three special projects on an annual basis; Back to School, Thanksgiving, and Gift of Warmth. This year our projects served 86 families who enrolled and 50 extra backpacks that were given to the Lacey School District reaching a total of 254 children for the Back to School project, 215 families reaching 553 adults and 307 children for the Thanksgiving Project, and 208 families reaching 536 children for the Gift of Warmth Project. In 2022 for the first time the Human Concerns Department held the Spring Dinner project and served a total 108 families reaching a total of 275 adults and 163 children.

The Human Concerns Department would like to thank all of our Staff and Volunteers who make these projects possible. We would also like to thank our generous community members who have donated to each of our projects this year.

Family Support Services

Human Concerns Food Pantry Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Walk-ins are welcome!

*The St. Francis Food Pantry has a variety of food options, personal hygiene products, and cleaning supplies available. Please ask about our Dairy-Free Milk alternatives, Gluten-Free or Vegan options, Baby Food, Formula, & Diapers. *Spanish-speaking staff is available to translate.*

*Join our text message alert system to receive alerts about the food pantry and annual projects. **TO ENROLL TEXT "PANTRY" TO 833-511-0760** **carrier text message rates may apply***

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*

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.

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.

Classes start January 4, 2023

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).

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.

Employment & Career Services

For information call ext. 407.

- **Adult Education Program**
- **First Step to Self Sufficiency**
- **Next 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

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.



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.grownkids.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

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Toddlers: Ages 13 months to 2 1/2

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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.

Community Bulletin Board

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Stafford Community Center, 25 Pine St., Manahawkin

Regular hours resume in January: Saturdays from 10-1; First & third Wednesday from 4-6. For further info Call Madelyn 609-276-3308

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OFF TO A PRAYERFUL START FOCUSING THE NEW YEAR

Tuesday, **January 3**, 7:00 – 8:00 PM

Start out 2023 with an evening zoom retreat to set the direction for the year. "Well begun is half done," they say, and establishing a direction is essential for the journey. Where am I going in 2023? What is the desire of my heart, and God's as we begin this year together? Donation: \$15, includes materials.

CHOOSING SERENITY IN STRESS

Monday, **January 9**, 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Is stress to be banished or befriended? Can I be serene and stressful simultaneously? Can I find a serene place within me which can embrace my stressful soul and let me live more peacefully? Donation: \$25, includes lunch; Zoom \$20.

ZOOM ONLY

MONDAYS WITH MERTON

5 Mondays, 1:00 – 2:30 PM

January 16 February 6 March 6 April 3 May 1

Mystics are human! Yes, Thomas Merton was human and a mystic. Explore the work of Gregory K. Hillis who was able to see the journals left by Thomas and now, years after his death in 1968, have been open to the public. We will be enjoying Hillis' *Man of Dialogue: Thomas Merton's Catholic Vision*. Donation: \$100

SPIRITUAL SORORITY

5 Tuesdays, 9:30 – 11:30 AM

January 17 February 7 March 7 April 4 May 2

Join us for heart-to-heart conversations with iconic women of faith. 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

EVENING ZOOM SERIES

LOVE IN ACTION

5 Tuesdays, 7:00 – 8:00 PM

January 17 February 7 March 7 April 4 May 2

Sometimes it seems almost impossible to make a difference in the world. Then, out of the blue, we have an opportunity to be compassionate—and the world changes. With the wisdom of Joyce Rupp's book, *Boundless Compassion*, let's explore the power of this everyday virtue. Donation: \$75

Please check www.FHOP.org for dates, registration, directions and for our other offerings! All programs will be offered online and in-person unless otherwise indicated.

Diocese of Trenton

701 Lawrenceville Rd., Trenton, NJ 08638

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.

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