

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 Dr. Richard Brodman

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>

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 30, 2022

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

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS	READINGS	EVENTS
Saturday, January 29	<u>(L) Living +Deceased</u> 9:00 AM +Alfonso Passano, Jr. 3:30 - 4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM +Christopher Michael Bagnato +Raif D'Amico (L)Brian Meter	2 Sm. 12:1-7a, 10-17; Mk. 4:35-41 Jer. 1:4-5, 17-19; 1 Cor. 12:31-13:13; Lk. 4:21-30	
Sunday, January 30	8:30 AM +John Schultz +Eileen Blazik 10:00 AM +George O'Connell, Jr. 11:30 AM +Michael DeOlivera	Jer. 1:4-5, 17-19; 1 Cor. 12:31-13:13; Lk. 4:21-30	10:00 AM <i>Live-Streaming Mass</i> www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi
Monday, January 31	9:00 AM +Anne Marie Davine	2 Sm. 15:13-14, 30, 16:5-13; Mk.5:1-20	Confirmation candidates workshop
Tuesday, February 1	9:00 AM +Ralph Grace	2 Sm. 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 13-14, 30, 19:3; Mk. 5:21-43	9:45 AM St. Anthony Novena 7:00 PM Adult Enrichment/RCIA 7:00 PM Men's Cornerstone Planning Surf City
Wednesday, February 2	9:00 AM +Georgeann Esmerado +James M. Kempfski	Mal. 3:1-4; Heb. 2:14-18; Lk. 2:22-40	9:00 AM Blessing of Candles 10:30 AM Contemplative Living, Zoom 2:00 PM Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 3:00 PM Scripture Study, Sr. Kate Mtg. Room
Thursday, February 3	9:00 AM +Georgeann Esmerado	1 Kgs. 2:1-4, 10-12; Mk. 6:7-13	9:00 AM St. Blaise, Blessing of Throat
Friday, February 4	9:00 AM +Bill Larkey	Sir. 47:2-11; Mk. 6:14-29	
Saturday, February 5	9:00 AM +Ed Conlon 3:30 - 4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM (L)Bunnie Bellotti (L)Ed & Jerry Naughton	1 Kgs. 3:4-13; Mk. 6:30-34 Is. 6:1-2a, 3-8; 1 Cor. 15:1-11; Lk. 5:1-11	9:30 AM OFS Fraternity Retreat, Maris Stella
Sunday, February 6	8:30 AM +Christopher Bagnato +Dr. Anthony D'Souza, Sr. 10:00 AM +James E. Kempfski +MaryLou Cangelosi 11:30 AM +Susan Lombardo	Is. 6:1-2a, 3-8; 1 Cor. 15:1-11; Lk. 5:1-11	10:00 AM <i>Live-Streaming Mass</i> www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi

Mass Schedule - **Until Further Notice**

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 for the Season

St. Thomas Aquinas, Beach Haven - Closed for the Season

St. Clare, Loveladies - Closed for the Season

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

Praying the Rosary

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



St. Anthony Novena

St. Francis of Assisi Church Brant Beach
Tuesdays after the 9:00 AM Daily Mass



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

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





Fr. Francis Di Spigno, OFM,
Pastor

Letter from the Pastor
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 30, 2022

Synod and Synodality

Synod is a word we don't hear very often. Although it has deep roots in our Catholic tradition the idea of synod faded over the centuries. It was reestablished by Pope Paul VI in September of 1965 in his letter, *Apostolica Sollicitudo*, (Apostolic Concern,) a few months before the solemn ending of the Second Vatican Council on Dec. 8 of the same year. Pope Paul began his letter calling for the renewal of the synodal practice within the Church. *"The Apostolic concern leading Us to carefully survey the signs of the times and to make every effort to adapt the means and methods of the holy apostolate to the changing circumstances and need of our day, impels Us to establish even closer ties with the bishops in order to strengthen Our union with them "whom the Holy Spirit has placed [...] to rule the Church of God" (Acts 20:28). [AS 1]*

Subsequently, his successors have called for a Synod of Bishops every three or four years to discuss important issues within the church. Occasionally, the popes have also called for "extraordinary" synods to consult on issues that required immediate attention. Pope Francis has called three extraordinary synods: on the family, on young people, and the most recent, the synod on the Amazon, held in Rome in October 2019 out of special concern for the peoples of the Amazon, whose lives and environment, he believes are under grave threat.

It is obvious that Pope Francis likes the idea of synodality, that is, creating an opportunity to hear what people have to say about what is going on in their lives, in our world, and in our church. Although we are now well beyond the Christmas season we cannot forget the implication of the Incarnation is that God was, and is, found in our world and in our day. Synodality allows us to hear what other people are thinking. It does not change the truth that we have long held as a church but it might affect how we interpret that truth in our day.

The word synod, like many words in our church lexicon, have Greek roots. It is the merging of two Greek words, *syn*, which means "together with, jointly; at the same time," and *hodos*, "a way, path, road; a ride, journey. Pope Francis said in his address marking the 50th anniversary of the institution of the Synod of Bishops, "What the Lord is asking of us is already in some sense present in the very word "Synod." Journeying together – laity, pastors, the Bishop of Rome – is an easy concept to put into words, but not so easy to put into practice." He went on to say, "It is precisely this path of synodality which God expects of the Church of the third millennium."

Pope Francis has said that he wants to hear from every baptized Catholic. I'm not sure if that is going to happen but each parish throughout the world has been asked to offer the opportunity for anyone who wishes to participate to do so. I have asked parishioners Jennifer and Anthony Mauro to co-chair our parish's effort to listen to as many of our faithful as possible. The entire process will focus on the question, *"What have been the joys and obstacles in your journeying together with the church?"*

As I have said to Jen and Anthony, I realize that we have to send the feedback we receive from you to Trenton, who in turn will send a report to Rome, but I think the beauty of this process is that *we* get to hear, on the local level, about our joys and our struggles in our journey with the church. By entering in the process, we are doing exactly what synod is, we journey together. Please stay tuned for more details on how St. Francis Parish will participate in the preparation for the Synod of Bishops that will be held in 2023.

There is plenty of information on the web. If you are interested in learning more about this very imaginative idea of Pope Francis on how we are to be church, please visit the diocesan website. <https://dioceseoftrenton.org/xvi-synod>

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

- i. www.etymonline.com/word/synod
- ii. *Ceremony Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Institution of the Synod of Bishops, Oct. 17 2015*
- iii. *Ibid*



Appeals Box

Second Collection:
Diocesan Assessment

This Week We Need:
Budgeted: **\$20,000**

Last Week's Collection:
Collected: **\$15,495.50**
Budgeted: **\$20,000**

Second Collection:
Latin America
Collected: **\$4,234**



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

2021 Annual Catholic Appeal

Goal: **\$100,000.00**

Total Raised: **\$69,995.00**

Total Collected: **\$69,626.42**

Pledge Balance: **\$ 368.58**

Total Donors: **312**

Average Gift: **\$200.42**



Catholic Schools Week 2022 January 30 – February 5



Since 1974, National Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. It starts the last Sunday in January and runs all week, which in 2022 is **January 30 - February 5**. The theme for National Catholic Schools Week 2022 is **"Catholic Schools: Faith, Excellence, Service."** Schools typically observe the annual celebration week with Masses, open houses and other activities for students, families, parishioners and community members. Through these events, schools focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our church, our communities and our nation. We offer our prayers and congratulations to the students, families, teachers and staff at St. Mary's Academy in Manahawkin as they celebrate Catholic Schools Week.

Weekly Reflections...



Fr. Andrew Reitz, OFM, Pastoral Associate

"I can't sing. My voice is horrible. If I did sing, I would be asked to be quiet." Yes, I have heard these comments from many people and while they may be true, what do these folk do when others are singing? Hopefully, listening, but I have a suggestion. The hymns in the hymnal are prayers and are chosen by Michele, the Director of Music, to go along with the theme that comes from the readings. Each week, she takes time to figure what hymns fit the best with the readings. Some weeks it is easy and others, not so easy. But it takes time to do this.

My suggestion is for non-singers to pick up the hymnal and look at the hymn that others are singing. Remember, this is a prayer so pray it (to yourself) while others are singing. Let me give you an example: there is a hymn "We Walk by Faith." The verses are: We walk by faith and not by sight; no gracious words we hear from him who spoke as none'er spoke; but we believe him near. We may not touch his hands and side, nor follow where he trod; but in his promise we rejoice; and cry "My Lord and God." Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound, to call on you when you are near, and seek where you are found.

Recognize these words? They are almost exactly words of the Gospel after Easter. There are many other examples. What an opportunity that is lost when someone thinks that they cannot participate because they can't sing. By following the text, you can make this your own prayer.

I have another suggestion. Before Mass while you are sitting in quiet prayer, take the hymnal and look at the hymns that will be used at Mass - they are listed on the hymn boards throughout the church. This will help you enter more consciously into the times during Mass that these hymns are sung.

I don't want anyone to feel left out because they can't sing. This is why I share these thoughts with you today. Hope they are helpful. Remember: pick up the hymnal and discover the treasury of prayers that are included.

GOSPEL CHALLENGE:

"Amen I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own native place."



Jesus did not fit the expectations the people had for the Messiah so they closed their minds to Him.

How can I become more open to the ways Jesus wants to meet me in my everyday life?

St. Francis Liturgical Community

Family Faith

Judith Clayton, Director of Family Faith (Ext. 153)

jclayton@stfrancislbj.org

Angie Graiff, Elementary Coordinator (Ext. 150)

Mary Lou Ligus, Administrative Assistant (Ext. 179)

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



When our in-person parent/child classes resume in February, our classes from grades one to five will be discussing different sacraments. For grade one they will experience a re-enactment of Baptism initiated by our Pastor with a follow up activity. Grade two will talk about the Last Supper, do an art project and watch a video in preparation for First Communion. Grade three is talking about all sacraments and creating a sacrament game. Grade four is talking about Reconciliation and forgiveness. They will be using an activity pamphlet to learn more about the Sacrament. Grade five is preparing for Reconciliation with an examination of conscience activity. There are examples for discussion and a prayer service.

All classes begin at 5:30 PM with temperatures taken and masks worn by all, parents, children and catechists.

6th grade students/parents Bible study will resume with session 4 of the Ascension Press "Encounter" program videos on the Old Testament: Desert Wanderings and Conquest and Judges. Student/parent teams will be using their Bibles for a Bible search as well as looking up the upcoming Sunday Gospel. The Saint lesson is about St. Helena, there is a QR code which contains a very informative video/movie on St. Helena. The Theme for this class is Celebrating Mass with a puzzle activity. There will be handouts and worksheets for more at home study of the Mass.

Our seventh grade families will discuss the question, "If you decided to commit your whole life to doing good what would you do?" Through scripture reading this question will be explored in light of the teachings of Jesus. Continuing with the preparation process for Confirmation the candidates will discover that the Apostles began the Church's public ministry at Pentecost, ritual actions of the Sacrament, ways in which Baptism and Eucharist are connected to Confirmation. The saint lesson will be on Venerable Mother Henriette DeLille. Closing prayer will be the Daily Examen.

Our Confirmation candidates will gather on **January 31** for their workshop on the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Our Pastor Fr. Fran will speak on the ways in which ritual actions in the Sacrament

Help Wanted - Altar Server Ministry

CALLING ALL BOYS AND GIRLS



Do you find mass boring? If you do, why not sign up to be an altar server. We need young people [after First Communion] to help with priests and/or carry the cross in the parade at the beginning and end of mass. The more you do during the mass, the more interesting mass becomes.

Have your parents contact Ms. Toby McCarthy
via email toby121e@comcast.net
or call/text (609) 923 5417.

Parents, don't worry...Ms. Toby will do the training, and your child will serve only ONE mass per month.

The Presentation of the Lord

Wednesday, February 2nd, 9:00 AM

Brant Beach Church

Wednesday, February 2nd the Church celebrates the feast of the Presentation of the Lord which occurs forty days after the birth of Jesus and is also known as Candlemas Day since the blessing of candles is included in the liturgy.

The Lord Jesus, the first-born, was presented in the Temple by his Blessed Mother and his foster father. Christ is the light of the nations, hence the blessing of candles on this day.



St. Blaisé and the Blessing of Throats

Thursday, February 3rd, 9:00 AM

Brant Beach Church

Throats will be blessed at the end of Mass

Saint Blaisé was the bishop of Sebaste in Armenia during the fourth century. According to various accounts, he was a physician before becoming a bishop. He was reputed to have miraculously cured a little boy with nearly died because of a fishbone in his throat. From the eighth century he has been involved on behalf of the sick, especially those afflicted with illnesses of the throat.

The use of candles for the blessing of the throat stems from the candles that Blaisé used while in prison. When an old woman's pig had been miraculously rescued from a wolf by Saint Blaisé, she would visit him in prison, bringing him food and candles to bring him light in his dark cell.



2021 Christmas Flower Memorials

We would like to express our sincerest thanks to all our parishioners and friends of St. Francis of Assisi Parish who participated in our Christmas Flower Memorial Fund. Your generous and kind spirits made possible the beautiful decorations, plants, and trees that added so much to our celebration of this holy season.

We hold you and all the departed in our prayers.
May God's blessings be with you.

Adult Faith Enrichment and RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

The Adult Faith Enrichment group
invites you to a talk on
"The Church...A People of Memory and Hope"
Tuesday, February 22nd at 7:00 PM
in the St. Francis Church, Brant Beach.

Meetings:

St. Francis Center unless otherwise noted.



Book Club

We will meet in person at St. Francis Center in either Room 102 or the Knight Wing Conference Room, (Room 212) on the last Tuesday of the month from 1:30-2:30 PM. Tuesday, **February 22**, 1:30 PM, Sr. Lunch Room

Men's Cornerstone Planning Meeting

Tuesday, **February 1**, 7:00 PM, St. Thomas Church, Surf City

Order of the Franciscans Secular offs

Saturday, **February 5, 9:30 AM**, Maris Stella, Harvey Cedars, *Fraternity Day of Recollection*

Scripture Study

Meets **Bi-monthly on Wednesdays**, at 3:00 PM 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. Wednesday, **February 2**, 3:00 PM, Sr. Kate Meeting Room

Survivors of Suicide

Meets the **2nd Thursday** of each month at 7:00 PM in the Knight Wing Conference Room (Room 212). Call Sr. Pat McNiff, osf at (609) 494-8813 for more

The Rosary Project

Dear Parish Family,

We will **temporarily suspend** collecting rosaries until we deplete what you have already so generously given.

Over 135 rosaries were donated. These will be given out to hospital patients and others along with an instruction card on praying the rosary.

Our heartfelt thanks to each of you for your donations and support.

The Ladies of Women's Cornerstone

(The collection basket will be removed on **February 1st.**)



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

REGISTER NOW !

2022 ST. FRANCIS MEN'S CORNERSTONE RETREAT

This could be the time for you to take a break from your busy schedule and reconnect to what really matters.

Friday, **March 11th** - 6:00 - 10:00 PM
Saturday **March 12th** - 8:00 AM - 7:00 PM
Maris Stella - Harvey Cedars

Brochures with pertinent information are available at the Church entrances.

Please contact Jim Brady with questions or for additional information at sabrady@hotmail.com

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 four certified Spiritual Directors offering *free* Spiritual Direction in our parish. For an appointment please call:

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

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. All our meetings, will be on Zoom for both Wednesdays and Saturdays through March then back in person for April through July 2022. Email Kathy Egan for more information at: klegan.chaplain@gmail.com

Next scheduled **ZOOM** sessions:

Wednesday, February 2, 10:30 AM;
Saturday, February 12, 9:45 AM

Men's Spirituality Group

The Men's Spirituality Group meets in the Senior Lunch Room on Saturday morning from 10:00 - 11:00 AM. Seating is limited. Please contact Deacon Bob or Father Steve to reserve your place. Next scheduled meeting: **February 19, 10:00 AM, Sr. Lunch**

Employment Opportunity



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

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

Children's Services - Toddler Room Supervisor

Seeking a person with a warm, nurturing, and friendly personality, be able to relate well with children and families. Bachelor's degree in early childhood education is required and experience working with Toddlers (13 months-2yrs of age) is preferred. First Aid & CPR Certified and Bi-Lingual a plus.

Position: Year-round, Full-time

Pay: \$14.50 per hour *A recruitment bonus of \$1,000 may be available through state funding- More information will be provided in the interview*

Days: Monday-Friday

Children's Services - Teacher's Assistant (Toddler & Preschool)

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

Pay: \$13.00 per hour *A recruitment bonus of \$1,000 may be available through state funding- More information will be provided in the interview*

Days: Monday-Friday

Counseling Services

Positions: Full-time and Part-time Licensed Counselors Full-time and Part-time 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). On-site clinical supervision is provided.

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

Recreation/Pool

Position: Part-time Lifeguard (possibility for year round hours)
Not Red Cross certified yet? We can train you!

For anyone interested in this position who is not a currently a Red Cross certified pool lifeguard, we can get you certified! Employment is for an indoor pool and 2 seasonal outdoor pools. If interested please reach out to slamarco@stfrancisbi.org with any questions or for more information.

Days: Monday-Friday, and/or weekend – Flexible schedule

Pay: \$12 per hour (Increasing to \$13 per hour on January 1st)

Bilingual Caseworker

Position: Full Time Employment. Applicants must be fluent in both English and Spanish.

Applicants must have strong interpersonal skills, familiar with factors which influence child abuse and neglect, valid driver's license, and a minimum of High School Diploma, preferred Bachelor's Degree in Social Work (BSW) or related field. Case worker will be required to travel throughout Ocean County for home visits and provide transportation to clients.

Days: Monday-Friday

Senior Services

Position: Full time Caseworker (Outreach and Information Assistance Worker)

Days/Hours: 40 hours a week- Monday-Friday

Pay: \$13 per hour

Must have Phone/Communication, Computer & Organization skills
Must have valid driver license. Due to COVID-19 restrictions most work is being conducted from the office however normally the position requires home visits with clients.

****Background check and fingerprinting required for all positions.**

Please send resumes to
abodine@stfrancisbi.org

St. Francis Center is an EOE/AA Employer

SPECIAL EVENTS

SUPER PLUNGE SATURDAY
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 12, 2022
11:00AM

GRAB YOUR REGISTRATION FORM AT THE FRONT DESK!

\$30 / PERSON
\$20 / STUDENT

REGISTER BEFORE FEB. 12 @ 10:30AM

SPONSORED BY ST. FRANCIS COMMUNITY CENTER. ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT ST. FRANCIS COMMUNITY CENTER & SOUTHERN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL SWIM TEAMS.

St. Francis Community Center
4302 Long Beach Blvd.
Long Beach, TN, 38008
901-494-8800
www.stfranciscenterbi.com

Special Events Coming Up at
St. Francis Parish

Annual Fish Fry
Saturday, March 12

Beefsteak Dinner
Friday, June 3

Details to follow.

Save the Date!

Annual
Fashion Show

Wednesday, June 22

Bonnet Island Estate

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.

Pickleball

A cross between Ping Pong, Tennis, Racquetball and Badminton. Pickleball is played as a singles or doubles game. Players use oversized ping pong paddles and a whiffle ball. The game is played on a badminton sized court that is divided by a 34 inch high net. Pickleball is a great sport for teens and up including baby boomers and active seniors.

Monday, Wednesday & Friday
12:15-3:00 PM

Saturdays
9:30 AM-12:30 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

Did You Know??

Our own Giovanni Mele, who works security at the front desk served in our US Army. He was a Corporal and did a tour in Danang, Vietnam. He was honorably discharged in July 1965. When you greet Giovanni at the front desk, please join me in thanking him for his service.

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

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

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.

Effective January 1, 2022 PAAD and Senior Gold limits will increase by 10,000 each.

This increases the income eligibility limits established in the Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled (PAAD) program to \$38,769 for single persons and \$45,270 combined income for married couples. Under the Senior Gold Prescription Discount Program, income eligibility limits are \$10,000 higher than PAAD income eligibility limits. Therefore, the bill will increase income eligibility limits under the Senior Gold Prescription Discount program to \$48,769 for single persons and \$55,270 combined income for married couples. If you need assistance in filling out an application call Senior Services to schedule an appointment (609) 494-8861.

Are you in need of assistance with Dental, Vision, Pharmaceutical and Physicians co-pay cost? We are here to help! St. Francis Senior Services received a grant from the **Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia Mission Fund** to assist low-income seniors in need of dental and vision care and prescription and physician co-pay cost. Please call Linda Falb, Director Senior Service for information.
(609) 494-8868 ext. 111.

Please be advised we can no longer take donations of durable medical equipment or adult undergarments; we do not have the space to store them.

Thank you, Sr. 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) 494-8861 or St. Francis Senior Services Berkeley Office at (732) 244-9600.

Family Support Services

Human Concerns Food Pantry Hours:

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

Walk-ins are welcome!

Everyone who enters the building will have their temperature taken & will be asked to wear a mask.

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:

Cereal, Canned Soup, Rice Side Packets, Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Canned Vegetables such as Corn, Green Beans, Peas, Carrots, Detergent, Soap, Personal Products, Dish Detergent.

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

Community Bulletin Board

Donovan Catholic High School

685 Hooper Ave., Toms River, NJ 0753

Join the St. Joseph's Totus Tuus group for "A Biblical Walk Through The Mass"

All women are invited to explore the scriptural basis for the words, gestures, and rituals of the Mass. This study by Dr. Edward Sri will lead us to discover all the richness, beauty, and sacredness of the Mass. Join us in this exploration of the Mass, and deepen your devotion to the Holy Eucharist.

THE STUDY WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY EVENINGS @ 7:00 PM

March 1, March 22, March 29 & April 5

At St. Joseph Church, Toms River

Registration fee: \$10

Reserve your spot for this fascinating study today!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Barbara Schellato
(732) 547-9814 or EMAIL: totustuus.stjoes@gmail.com

Coastal Volunteers in Medicine

730 Lacey Rd., Suite G-6, Forked River, NJ 08731

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