

THE BRIDGE



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

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



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 LENT

MARCH 27, 2022

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

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS	READINGS	EVENTS
Saturday, March 26	<u>(L) Living +Deceased</u> 9:00 AM <i>Solemnity of St. Joseph</i> +Theresa Byrne 3:30 - 4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM +Agnes P. Thackston	Hos. 6:1-6; Lk. 18:9-14 Jos. 5:9a, 10-12; 2 Cor. 5:17-21; Lk. 15:1-3, 11-32	
Sunday, March 27	8:30 AM +Florence Grant +Kim Scott +Ann Davey 10:00 AM +Michael Munkacsy +Betsey Connelly +Mickey Robertozzi 11:30 AM +Nicole Lynn Maurer-Karmade	Jos. 5:9a, 10-12; 2 Cor. 5:17-21; Lk. 15:1-3, 11-32	10:00 AM <i>Live-Streaming Mass</i> www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi
Monday, March 28	9:00 AM +James Vida	Is. 65:17-21; Jn. 4:43-54	
Tuesday, March 29	9:00 AM +William Fraser	Ez. 47:1-9, 12; Jn. 5:1-16	9:45 AM St. Anthony Novena 1:30 PM Book Club, Sr. Lunch Room
Wednesday, March 30	9:00 AM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i>	Is. 49:8-15; Jn. 5:17-30	2:00 PM Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 3:00 PM Scripture Study, Sr. Kate Room
Thursday, March 31	9:00 AM +Thomas Foley	Ex. 32:7-14; Jn. 5:31-47	
Friday, April 1	9:00 AM +James E. Kempfski +Bert Minella +Domenica Robertozzi	Wis. 2:1a, 12-22; Jn. 7:1-2, 10, 25-30	7:00 PM <i>Live-Streaming Prayer Service</i> www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi
Saturday, April 2	9:00 AM +Carole Ann Liming 3:30 - 4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM +Burt Heyt	Jer. 11:18-20; Jn. 7:40-53 Is. 43:16-21; Phil. 3:8-14; Jn. 8:1-11	
Sunday, April 3	8:30 AM +John Connolly +Doucila Panella 10:00 AM +James E. Kempfski +Eric Halverson +Dolores Desheri O'Hara 11:30 AM +Ann T. Davey	Is. 43:16-21; Phil. 3:8-14; Jn. 8:1-11	10:00 AM <i>Live-Streaming Mass</i> www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi 12:30 OFS Fraternity Mtg., Church Hall



Friday, March 25th
7:00 PM
St. Francis of Assisi Church,
Brant Beach, NJ

There will be a special **Prayer Service for Peace in Ukraine** which will replace the Stations of the Cross originally planned for that evening. We will come together to add our prayers for peace and justice to those of the millions of people around the world who "with pain in their hearts" are watching this tragic crisis unfold. The service will include readings from scripture, notations from letters opposing the war, reflections, both spoken and musical.

Please come and join us. Everyone is welcome.

"Make us a channel of your peace." St. Francis of Assisi
* * * * *

Please note that Soup and Stations of the Cross planned for Friday, March 25th has been replaced with a special Prayer Service for Peace in Ukraine at 7:00pm in St. Francis Church. All are welcome to join us.

We will NOT need donations of soup for Friday, March 25th as Soup and Stations of the Cross has been replaced with

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

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.

A Letter From The Pastor...



Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 27, 2022

Last week I wrote to tell you about our prayer service for peace. This week I share with you Pope Francis' Prayer for Peace. May it be so, soon.

FOR UKRAINE: A PRAYER FOR PEACE BY POPE FRANCIS

Lord God of peace, hear our prayer!
We have tried so many times
and over so many years to resolve our conflicts
by our own powers and by the force of our arms.
How many moments of hostility and darkness have we experienced;
how much blood has been shed;
how many lives have been shattered;
how many hopes have been buried ...
but our efforts have been in vain.

Now, Lord, come to our aid!
Grant us peace, teach us peace;
guide our steps in the way of peace.
Open our eyes and our hearts,
and give us the courage to say:
"Never again war!"; "With war everything is lost".
Instill in our hearts the courage
to take concrete steps to achieve peace.

Lord, God of Abraham, God of the Prophets, God of Love,
you created us and you call us to live as brothers and sisters.
Give us the strength daily to be instruments of peace;
enable us to see everyone who crosses our path as our brother or sister.
Make us sensitive to the plea of those who entreat us to turn our
weapons of war into implements of peace,
our trepidation into confident trust, and our quarreling into forgiveness.

Keep alive within us the flame of hope,
so that with patience and perseverance we may opt for dialogue and
reconciliation.
In this way may peace triumph at last, and may the words "division",
"hatred" and "war" be banished from the heart of every man and woman.

Lord, defuse the violence of our tongues and our hands.
Renew our hearts and minds, so that the word which always brings us
together will be brother, sister,
and our way of life will always be that of: Shalom, Peace, Salaam!
Amen.

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



Our Lady of Kyiv



Greetings Parishioners and Friends,

Please let us introduce ourselves – Jennifer and Anthony Mauro, co-chairs of the Synod steering committee. We are honored to have been asked to be part of the Synod of Bishops process, as St. Francis of Assisi Parish has been our spiritual home for more than 15 years.

As you may have heard, Pope Francis has called for a Synod of Bishops to meet in 2023. The overarching objective is for the Church to become a listening Church. For us to listen to each other about our faith journeys.

As part of this process, the Pope wants to hear from as many Catholics (both practicing and drifting) as possible. To that end, our parish is organizing a Spiritual Conversation Campaign. The goal of the campaign is to encourage all parishioners and all baptized Catholics to gather and offer their insights and to encounter one another in prayer and active listening. Questions will be asked, and a synopsis of each conversation will be recorded via notetaking and sent to the Diocese. All participant names will be kept in confidence, and no names will be included in the report. The Diocese will then condense and send this information on to the Vatican.

The questions are as follows:

1. What have been the joys and obstacles in your journeying together with the Church?
2. Consider the comments from the other participants in the first round. What resonated the most for you?
3. Reflecting on our conversation, how might the Holy Spirit be prompting you, and all of us as Church, to improve the ways we are able to journey together?

A group of parish volunteers have been trained as facilitators and notetakers. All parishioners and viewpoints will be welcomed and listened to. Open-mindedness and open-heartedness will lead to prayerfulness and a reaffirming spirit within each listening session. We hope for a large number of participants. ***We also encourage each parishioner who plans on participating to extend an invitation to any family member, friend or acquaintance who may not be actively practicing our faith.*** It is important that we hear from them. Understand that we will not look to evangelize but will only provide non-judgmental listening. Our prayers will be offered to the Holy Spirit seeking guidance, discernment and support for all shared views, opinions, suggestions and hopes given by each and every active participant.

There will be **two Spiritual Conversation Meetings**, one held on **Sunday, March 13, after the 10:00 AM Mass in the Parish Center** and another on **Saturday, March 26, at 10 AM in the Brant Beach Church Hall**. There will also be a **Zoom meeting at 7 PM, Wednesday, March 23**. To sign up for one of these meetings, or for more information, email synod.stfrancis@gmail.com.

We pray now that the Holy Spirit will help you make the decision to participate and we extend our gratefulness in advance for you doing so.

Appeals Box

Second Collection:

Catholic Relief Services

Catholic Relief Services helps people, Catholic and non-Catholic, throughout the U.S. and the world especially in times of crisis. Please be generous.

This Week We Need:

Budgeted: **\$20,000**

Last Week's Collection:

Collected: **\$17,691.50**

Budgeted: **\$20,000**

Second Collection:

St. Francis Parish Ministries: Music

Collected: **\$5,607**

(Online Giving totals are included in the above figures)

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



Weekly Reflections...



Fr. Stephen Kluge, OFM, Pastoral Associate

Saints of God, the Lord be with you.

On this fourth Sunday of Lent, the Gospel reading from Luke is that well known parable of The Prodigal Son [Lk. 15: 1-3; 11-32]. In one of the Bibles I use, the 15th chapter of Luke might be called the “chapter of the lost” since Jesus tells three parables, the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the lost son. [Although if one reads today’s Gospel carefully, both sons are lost.]

I looked up the definition of prodigal, “Spending money or resources freely and recklessly; wastefully extravagant.” The second definition is, “Having or giving something on a lavish scale.” Most of us know this parable well enough to identify the younger son as being wasteful, [hence the title Prodigal son]. But if I am correct in implying that both sons are lost, the elder son is not prodigal, “Look, all these years I served you, and not once did I disobey your orders; yet you never gave me...” You get the picture. Yes, both sons are lost, but only the younger is prodigal. So it seems to me that the real prodigal, and the whole point of the parable is the Father.

The Father gives half of his estate to the younger son who is basically saying to him, “I wish you dead.” At the time of the telling, the entire estate should have gone to the elder son. What a wasteful extravagance. Now the father, and the elder son, have to live on half of what they had.

The Father, when catching sight of the younger son, is filled with extravagant compassion and runs [leaving his dignity behind] to embrace him, clothes him in fine garments and puts a ring on his finger, sandals on his feet, and kills the fattened calf in order to hold a celebratory feast. Talk about lavish. The whole parable tells us something about how our Father God treats us every time we “come to our senses” and return home.

This Lent, don’t be afraid to admit that you made mistakes, misused gifts and talents, sinned willingly or by omission. God the Father wants to lavish mercy and kindness on you. And St. Francis Parish will welcome you with open arms.

Fr. Stevek, ofm

 **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: **\$20,814.00**

Total Collected: **\$17,402.00** (21% of Goal)

Total Donors: **104**

Total Gifts: **107**

Average Gift: **\$194.52**

*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



Pilgrimage to the Holy Land
A 10 Day Holy Land Pilgrimage
November 30 to December 9, 2022
hosted by Fr. Andrew Reitz, OFM.

The Bible comes alive as we visit Mt. Tabor, Tiberias, Nazareth, Cana, Jerusalem, Jericho, Bethlehem, the Dead Sea and more. \$3,199 per person from New York (additional transportation charge from LBI).

Email or contact Fr. Andrew at
areitz@stfrancisparishlbi.org for a brochure.

GOSPEL CHALLENGE:



“May we hold in our hearts the good news that no matter what our sins may be, our compassionate and forgiving Father always reaches out to us.”

St. Francis Liturgical Community

Liturgical Calendar for Lent 2022

All Liturgies in St. Francis of Assisi unless otherwise noted

- The Annunciation of the Lord – Friday, March 25th - 9:00am.
 - Prayer Service for Peace in Ukraine – Friday, March 25th - 7:00pm. The Prayer Service will be *live streamed* for those not able to attend. www.facebook.com/stfrancisparylbi
 - Fourth Sunday of Lent – March 27th.
 - Soup & Stations – April 1.
Soup at 6:00pm - Stations of the Cross at 7:00pm. The Stations of the Cross will be *live streamed* for those not able to attend. www.facebook.com/stfrancisparylbi
 - Fifth Sunday of Lent – April 3rd.
 - Lenten Communal Penance with Individual Reconciliation
Friday, April 8th at 6:00pm.
Saturday, April 9th at 10:00am.
 - Palm Sunday - April 9/10 in Brant Beach 5:00pm, 8:30am, 10:00am, 11:30am.
10:00am in St. Thomas Villanova, Surf City.
- Lent ends before the celebration of Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Thursday, April 14th.
- Easter Sunday Sunrise Service - April 17th 6:00 AM at the Third St. Beach in Beach Haven.

Soup and Stations of the Cross

We will be having Soup and Stations of the Cross each Friday during Lent. Soup will be served at 6:00pm and Stations of the Cross will begin at 7:00pm in the Brant Beach church. We will be having a meal of bread, homemade meatless soup and ice water in the church hall. It is a time to make our Lenten journey fruitful as we walk the way of the cross with our brothers and sisters and continue to grow in our personal relationship with God. The three pillars of lent are prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Pope Francis tells us that "lent is a privileged time for prayer." Our prayer strengthens us for fasting and almsgiving as we put aside some of our own needs and provide for those in need during lent. At each of the five Fridays there will be baskets on the sanctuary steps for much needed items for the food pantry.

Week Five April 1...Praying the 14 Stations of the Cross with *Mary, Mother of God*. Food Pantry needs canned ravioli.

The Stations of the Cross will be *live streamed* for those not able to attend. www.facebook.com/stfrancisparylbi

Please join us for a simple meal of soup as we begin our Lenten journey.

Please feel free to bring neighbors or friends. All are welcome!

Peace Prayer Project

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



Eucharistic Minister and Lector Sign-up Sheets and Schedules Notice

Spring 2022 for Beach Haven and Surf City

The new sign-up sheets and completed schedule dates for **April 9/10 through June 25/26, 2022** is as follows:

Eucharistic Ministers

- Schedules will be in the file boxes by the BB sacristy door on Saturday, **March 26**.

Please return all sign-up sheets in an envelope marked Parish Office/ Eucharistic Minister. They can be returned to the front desk or parish office. Or you can email them to JoAnne Reeder jreeder@stfrancislbi.org

Peace and all good!



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



SOUP AND STATIONS

We will be needing donations of meatless soup in a crockpot to share at our Soup and Stations on April 1st.

Please bring the soup to the church hall between 5:00pm and 6:00pm.

Soup will begin at 6:00pm followed by Stations of the Cross. The Stations of the Cross will be *live streamed* for those not able to attend. www.facebook.com/stfrancisparylbi

Questions?

Contact JoAnne at 609-494-8861 Ext. 164.
Peace and all good!



Family Faith

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

jlclayton@stfrancislbj.org

Angie Graiff, Elementary Coordinator (Ext. 150)

Mary Lou Ligus, Administrative Assistant (Ext. 179)

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



FAMILY FAITH MARCH ACTIVITIES

Catholics celebrate a time in the Church when they follow more closely the way of Jesus. We take up spiritual practices and disciplines that help us identify with Jesus more as we prepare to celebrate Easter.

Our families in the Religious Education program will be reading and discussing scripture, Jesus' practice of prayer and learn what they can do as a family to prepare to journey the forty days. We will think about how we treat others. We will look beyond our own wants and desires. We will pay attention to the needs of others. We will look for some ways we can make changes in our lives to grow closer to God. During this season of Penance we will see that the Church looks simple and plain, little flowers or decorations. The priests wear purple vestments.

The art activity for the 1st through 3rd grades is to make a Lenten resolution egg. The children will choose something to do to make the world a better place and keep the egg chart to see how they are doing, as well as act out a skit about making choices. Grades 4 and 5 will re-enact the way of the cross.

Our 2nd grade children are working with their parents as they prepare for their First Eucharist. We will celebrate the reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on **March 21st**.

6th grade students/parents Bible study continues with session 6 of the Ascension Press "Encounter" program videos "Exile, Return and Maccabean Revolt", followed by a short review. Student/parent teams will use their Bibles to look up the upcoming Sunday Gospel and take time for a reflection. The Saint lesson is about St. Benedict of Palermo and includes a QR code with a video on his life. The theme for this class is Lent, handouts will include a QR code with a match game on the Stations of the Cross. We will use Loyola Press Art Print #20 an interpretation of Gethsemane where Jesus prayed after the Last Supper. There will be handouts and worksheets for more at home study on Lent.

Grade 7 Confirmation prep I candidates will be completing their candidate book this month. This session will focus on the meaning of Grace in their lives, how the will and actions of the Holy Spirit inspire the use of their gifts.

As Matthew Kelly, author of Decision Point another book used in this class says "Be Bold, Be Catholic".

The final Decision Point lesson discussion "10 Great Ways to be Catholic"

10. It is unique and original
9. We care for the suffering
8. We have history and mystery
7. We have the Saints
6. We believe in the power of prayer.
5. It is universal
4. We defend human rights
3. We are invited to get involved and be a part of a great mission
2. The Eucharist
1. You don't say no to God when he invites you.

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

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/stfrancisparishlbj.

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

Parish Registration: The Parish Office is located on the second floor of St. Francis Community Center, 4700 Long Beach Blvd., Long Beach Twp., NJ. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. The office is closed for lunch from 12:00 to 1:00 PM. Please notify the Parish Office as soon as possible if you are moving.

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

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.

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.

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

The Adult Faith Enrichment group invites you to a talk on

"Palm Sunday and Triduum"

Tuesday, April 5th 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.

Pachinko by Min Jim Lee.

Tuesday, **March 29**, 1:30 PM, Sr. Lunch Room

Order of the Franciscans Secular ofs

Sunday, **April 3**, 12:30 PM *Fraternity Meeting*, Brant Beach Church Hall

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, **March 30**, 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, ofsf at (609) 494-8813 for more information. Thursday, **June 9**, 7:00 PM, Room 212

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, ofsf, (609) 204-3835,

Kathy Egan, (215) 694-4651,

Mary Lou Jacoby, (732) 995-6917

Pat Simmons, ofsf, (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** session - **April 6th**.

Next **in-person** session **April 9th** with Friar John Frambes presenting

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: **April 23, 10:00 AM, Sr. Lunch Room.**

Employment Opportunity



*All full-time positions are offered benefits including Health Care, Paid time off (w/ additional earning for years of service), approx. 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

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.

Maintenance- Housekeeping

Position includes: Perform scheduled and unscheduled cleaning of Community Center and Parish properties. Must be able to lift 25lbs.

Part time position - Monday through Friday - up to 29 hours per week.

Pay: \$13 per hour

**Background check and fingerprinting required for all positions.

Please send resumes to abodine@stfrancislibi.org

St. Francis Center is an EOE/AA Employer

SPECIAL EVENTS



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.

SESSION II REGISTRATION

Monday, April 4th
9:00 AM

Session II begins April 19th

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.

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:

Toilet Paper, Shampoo, Body Wash, Deoderant, Hand Soap

Canned Goods:

Corn, Peas, Carrots, Green Beans, Baked Beans, Black Beans, Kidney Beans, Chick Peas, Spaghetios, Beef Stew, Chicken

Ketchup, Mustard, Mayonaisse

Salad Dressing

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

Family Support Services First Annual Spring Dinner Project

The Human Concerns Department is excited to announce our First Annual Spring Dinner Project.

We are planning to provide meals to approximately 150 local families.

The following items are needed:

Frozen Turkeys, Frozen Hams, Boxed Scalloped Potatoes, Bagged Rice or Pasta Sides, and Canned Vegetables (Corn, Peas, & Green Beans).

Please drop off all donations to the St. Francis Food Pantry on or before **Monday April 11th, 2022**. If you are donating a frozen item, please drop off Monday-Friday between 9AM & 4PM. Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated.

Manahawkin Shop Rite will hold Hams and Turkeys earned through the Price Plus Club Holiday Promotion. At check-out, please inform the cashier that you would like to donate your Holiday Promotional Ham or Turkey to St. Francis Food Pantry.

Your continued generosity allows us to support our community members. Thank you!

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.

Did You Know??

Over the last calendar year, the Sexual Violence Advocates of Ocean County accompanied 43 survivors and supported 39 calls to our hotline. That is a total of 82 individuals who received support and resources in Ocean County Hospitals.

As part of our efforts to increase awareness around the sexual violence, St. Francis Counseling Service and Ocean County Prosecutors Office are partnering with local businesses and organizations to “*Turn the Town Teal*” this April! Follow along using the hashtag #OCNJSAAM2022 on Facebook or Instagram! If you are a business or organization that would be interested in participating, please contact us at 609-494-1554 and request to speak with Jenna Pluard.

For more information on additional services offered by St Francis Counseling, including individual, group, and family therapy options, please contact our office at: Counseling Service : 609-494-1554

For information on events and outreach – please ask to speak with Jenna Pluard

For information on volunteer advocacy – please ask to speak with Delaney Cronin.

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

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A private Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi
with Father Steve Kluge

October 26-November 3, 2022

A second presentation will be held on **Friday, March 25, 2022** from 5pm-7pm at St. Francis Center, by Jim Myers from Myers Tours and Home Town Travel. RSVP is required to attend. Please call Tara at Home Town Travel to confirm your attendance and find out more what this great trip entails. (609) 597-5100 or visit St. Francis Parish Website at: <https://www.stfrancisparishbi.org/travel>

Community Bulletin Board

Maris Stella Retreat Center

Harvey Cedars, NJ

Lenten Weekly Holy Hour for World Peace

Maris Stella Chapel

Thursdays, March 31st, April 7th, 2022

3:00 – 4:00 PM

Holy hour will provide an opportunity for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and silent prayer for world peace.

No registration needed.

Day of Reflection: “Spirituality in Film”

Saturday, April 23rd, 2022, 10:00 AM - 3:30 PM

This interactive workshop will encourage participants to consider how film as a medium can explore worship, faith and doubt, and the glory of the natural world. We will use film clips and brief writing prompts. We will also provide a suggested list of films to view. **Presenters: Laura Winters and Lynne McEniry**, Seton Associates of the Sisters of Charity. *Limited Overnight Accommodations available at an additional cost.*

Costs: \$60.00 – Bring Brown bag lunch. “Coffee and” provided in the morning. **Non-Refundable Non-Transferable Deposit: \$25.00**

Registration due April 10th, 2022. For more information or to register: logon to www.marisstella.org or call Sr Pat (609) 494-2917 or email pdotzauer@comcast.net

St. Mary Academy

Manahawkin, NJ

A “KNIGHT” TO REMEMBER

St. Mary Academy warmly invites you to their 20th Anniversary Gala, **Friday, May 13, 6:00 – 11:00 PM, at the Waterfront in Lacey.** There will be complimentary wine and beer cocktail hour from 6:00 – 7:00 PM (cash bar remainder of the evening), dinner, gift auction and music throughout the evening. Cost of tickets are \$75.00 if purchased before March 20 and \$100.00 if purchased afterwards. **For more information, please contact St. Mary Academy at (609) 597-3800.**

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.

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