BRIDGE



THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 16, 2021

- PARISH STAFF -

Fr. Francis DiSpigno, OFM, Pastor Michele Beck, Music Fr. Scott Brookbank, OFM Judith Clayton, FFF Deacon Robert Cunningham Fr. Kevin Daly, OFM Fr. John Frambes, OFM Fr. Stephen Kluge, OFM Sr. Patricia McNiff, OSF Jo Anne Reeder, Worship Fr. Andrew Reitz, OFM

Parish Office (609) 494-8813 Mon. - Fri. 9 AM to 3 PM (Closed for lunch 12 - 1 PM)

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

> Community Center (609) 494-8861

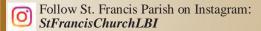
Counseling Services (609) 494-1554

Read our bulletin online at www.stfrancisparishlbi.org



Daily gospel reflections can be found on Facebook at:

www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi



St. Francis of Assisi Parish is a Franciscan Faith Community of Holy Name Province in the Diocese of Trenton.

Find out more about Holy Name Province online at: www.hnp.org

Franciscan Sisters of Allegany, NY Vocation Office vocations@fsallegany.org

Franciscan Sisters of Philadelphia, PA Vocation Office vocations@osfphil.org

St. Francis is a sending Parish to St. Mary Academy 609-597-3800 or visit: www.stmaryknights.org

First Eucharist Celebrants May 2021

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

St. Francis of Assisi, Brant Beach St. Thomas of Villanova, Surf City St. Thomas Aquinas, Beach Haven St. Clare of Assisi, Loveladies

> Mackson Azzolino **Shelby Bass Kevin Cassidy Madison Chandler** Kevin Cheeseman Noah Chin **Emily Craig** Adam DeAlessandro Rose DeAlessandro **Landon DeMatteis Rivers DeMatteis** Sawver Dramis **Reiley Ducker** Kendall Gibson Christian Guido Brendan Jablonski James Kelley Lincoln Kennedy **Grady Metzger Natalie Moschello** Adrianna Pisciotta Jeremiah Powell Summer Rickards Chenzia Rofrano Kendra Damian Sanchez Benjamin Sanzari Dax Thomas



Peace and Blessings to All!

Kai Thomas

St. Francis of Assisi Parish offers ONLINE GIVING Parishioners who prefer to donate through our Online Giving Service, a secure and personalized way to give to the Parish, can visit our website at: http://www.stfrancisparishlbi.org

St. Francis of Assisi, 4700 Long Beach Blvd., Brant Beach, NJ					
DATE	MASS INTENTIONS	READINGS	EVENTS		
Saturday,	(L) Living +Deceased 9:00 AM +Franciscan Mass League	Acts 18:23-28;			
May 15	3:30 - 4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM +Frances Jennette	Jn. 16:23b-28 Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26; 1 Jn.4:11-16; Jn. 17:11b-19			
Sunday, May 16	8:30 AM +Franciscan Mass League 10:00 AM +James Kempski +Anne McNiff Huey +Ann Flyntz 11:30 AM +Anna Marie Monteforte +Jacqueline Ruczynski	Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26; 1 Jn.4:11-16; Jn. 17:11b-19	10:00 AM Live-Streaming Mass www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi 12:30-1:00 PM "In car" Communion		
Monday, May 17	9:00 AM +John Raftery	Acts 19:1-8,; Jn. 16:29-33			
Tuesday, May 18	9:00 AM +Ronald Waranowicz +Vincent Ferraro	Acts 20:17-27; Jn. 17:1-11a	9:30 AM Adult Enrichment, Mini Retreat		
Wednesday, May 19	9:00 AM +Eugene D'Amico +Georgeann Esmerado	Acts 20:28-38; Jn. 17:11b-19			
Thursday, May 20	9:00 AM +Richard Nigro	Acts 4:8-12; Jn. 14:12-17			
Friday, May 21	9:00 AM +Mrs. Anne C. Gove	Acts 25:13b-21; Jn. 21:15-19			
Saturday, May 22	9:00 AM +Franciscan Mass League 3:30 - 4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM +Frances Jennette	Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Jn. 21:20-25 Acts 2:1-11; 1 Cor. 12:3b-7, 12-13; Jn. 20:19-23, L63b	4:45 PM Blessing of Lifeguards, Aquatic Ctr.		
Sunday, May 23	8:30 AM +Franciscan Mass League 10:00 AM +Dr. Richard R. Gove +Josephine & Joseph Onufer (L)Michelle Cook 11:30 AM +Gustavo Acosta +Peter Boffa	Acts 2:1-11; 1 Cor. 12:3b-7, 12-13; Jn. 20:19-23, L63b	10:00 AM Live-Streaming Mass www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi 12:30-1:00 PM "In car" Communion		

St. Thomas of Villanova Church 13th & Long Beach Blvd., Surf City					
DATE	MASS INTENTIONS				
Saturday,	(L) Living +Deceased				
May 15	5:00 PM +Franciscan Mass Intentions				
Sunday,	8:30 AM +Franciscan Mass Intentions				
May 16	10:00 AM +William Chesner				
Saturday, May 22	5:00 PM +Franciscan Mass Intentions				
Sunday,	8:30 AM +Elizabeth Barrett				
May 23	10:00 AM (L)+Stein & Kempski Families				

St. Clare's Church, Loveladies, NJ Closed for the Season

Peace Prayer Project

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



2 ND & Atlantic Ave., Beach Haven						
DATE	MASS INTENTIONS					
Saturday, May 15	(L) Living +Deceased 5:00 PM +Franciscan Mass Intentions					
Sunday, May 16	10:00 AM +Karen Camporeale					
Saturday, May 22	5:00 PM +Franciscan Mass Intentions					

10:00 AM +Helen Royer

St. Thomas Aquinas Church

Sunday, May 23

"Seeing Red"

Next weekend, May 16th marks the fiftieth day after Easter and the day we celebrate Pentecost Sunday. We commemorate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles. The gift of the Holy Spirit fills us with an awareness of living the Gospel to its fullest and to opening ourselves to being present to others. The liturgical color for Pentecost is red and we invite all to join in the celebration next week by wearing something red to Mass.

Parish Information - (609) 494-8813

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

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

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

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

Faith Formation and Education: For children ages six through high school. Please call Judith Clayton at (609) 494-8813 ext. 153 for more information.

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

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

February, March, April 2021

Registered:

Nick and Irena Gazzillo Matthew and Carmel LoCurto The Alfonse family Brian and Anne Colleary Fred "JJ" Weiss Joseph and Cassidy Labita The Petrongolo Family The Grando Family Sam and Eileen Sperrazza Alexander and Lauren Kozak Cathy Reilly Anna Tkatch Gary and Pam Frigo Carolyn and Frank VanDalen Maureen and Stephen Hubbard James and Roseanne Gilson Jean and Andrew Duffy The Miller Family The Signorello Family The Aurisano Family

Bob Lackaye Roberta Kilgallen Kelly Binkowski Sabrina Scrivanich Jacqueline Schaeffer John and Madelyn Schaeffer The Kramer Family Michael and Dina Galeotafiore The Fuss Family Joseph and Joan Pisano Russell and Susan Malta Mary Denk Jill and Michael Marquand Breana and Craig Rosenbaum Sean Hubbard Marc Liguorim The Hannold Family Michael and Sandra Coen James and Joy Batistick The Petrone Family

Baptized:

Mila Rose Mol
Emma Louise Ruch
Aubree Nicole Tilton
Zander David Bass
Grayson Anthony Adams
Sean Patrick Henderson
Beckett Reed
Tanner Sullivan Bass

Sophia Mendez Noah James Brennan Shelby Anne Bass

Married:

Deceased:

Henry Klass
Carol Lee Fitzsimmons
Ronald Fontana Sr.
Edith Herzig
Michael Bent
David Bohan

Carol Hodgson Roger Vennewald Robert Scheuerman Edward Shanley James Tarantino Gerard T. Robertson

Eugene Moynihan Patricia Kaksti George Russo Arlene Harlfinger Carol Roessner

A Letter From The Pastor...



It is so nice to see people coming back to church! We started congregational singing at Mass last weekend. All good indications that the worst of those dark days of Covid are behind us. Let us continue to hope and pray that that is true! I would like to give a great big SHOUT OUT to everyone in the Long Beach Island Health Department. They have done an outstanding job making sure that the vaccine was, and continues to be, accessible to all local residents. Great kudos to Daniel Krupinski, director of the LBIHD, and the entire team at the LBIHD, for all the extra hours they worked, the creative responses they came up with to address this ever changing reality, and for their dedication to making sure that as many people as possible can be vaccinated so that we can all remain safe and get back to as close to "normal" as possible. If you have not received the vaccine yet, or if you know of someone who has not yet received the vaccine, please call the LBIHD at 609 492-1212.

On another note, I would also like to share with you that Barbara Truncellito has joined our Pastoral Staff. I have asked Barbara to coordinate all of the parish fund raising activities such as the Festival of the Sea, Car Raffle, 50/50s, Fashion Show, etc. Part of her task will be to review and evaluate our present-day parish development initiatives as well as explore possibilities for areas of growth. As a year-round resident of Long Beach Island, Barbara has been a member of the parish for many years. She has a great love for our Franciscan Spirituality and a great devotion to St. Francis Parish and Center.

As I know you know, the only way that we can continue to be church for one another is through your generous donations. Our weekly collections go a long way to help us meet our expenses but they do not cover everything. Barbara began on May 4th and is ready to go! Welcome Barbara!!

Finally, it is time for the 2021 Annual Catholic Appeal.

Many of you should have already received a letter from Bishop David O'Connell back in March. Some of you have already gracious responded. Our parish goal is \$100,000. As of May 10, \$32,309 has been pledged and \$28,812.78 has been collected by the diocese. Thank you to those who have already responded so generously.

I think it goes without saying that St. Francis Parish on Long Beach Island is jewel. From the moment I returned after 20 years away, I knew that the spirit of the parish was still vibrant and alive. Even in the throes of a once in a century pandemic, the prayerfulness and beauty of our community remains strong. We, however, are not a church that stands alone but one that stands in union with all those who profess that we are "one, holy, catholic, and apostolic." In particular, we are a church within the church of the Diocese of Trenton.

This Sunday a video of Bishop O'Connell will be presented so you can hear directly from him why this appeal is so important. I have asked the ushers to distribute envelopes with the pledge cards and information about the 2021 Annual Catholic Appeal to you as you leave the church today.

I thank you in advance for your prayers for the success of this appeal and for your continued generosity to St. Francis Parish and to the Diocese of Trenton.

May God's Peace and All Good be with you always.

Fr. Fran, OFM Pastor

Franciscan Spiritual Center Presents:



Spiritual Direction

We now have five certified Spiritual Directors offering *free* Spiritual Direction in our parish. For an appointment please call:

**Barbara H. Angeline, ofs, (609) 384-6188,

**Maryann Barrek, ofs, (609) 661-4441,

**Anne Bock, ofs, (609) 204-3835,

**Kathy Egan, (215) 694-4651,

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

Scripture Study

This group meets bi-monthly on Wednesdays, from 7:00 to 8:00 PM to learn, discuss and reflect on passages of the Sacred Scriptures. It is a "zoom meeting" led by Tom Troyano. No prior bible study background needed, just an interest in bible study and your own copy of the bible.

Call (609) 261-4721 or email: *tomtroyano@comcast.net* for more information.

Next scheduled zoom meeting: May 26

An Invitation to Contemplative Living

This program calls out to those who desire to live more contemplatively in the world, to grow in union with God and others, and to become more aware, intentional and free. God liberates us and heals us through the practice of contemplative prayer. Monthly "zoom sessions" on the practice of contemplative prayer are 1st Wednesday of each month at 10:30 AM. Email Kathy Egan for more information at: klegan.chaplain@gmail.com Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87537640297?pwd=TFdKS05NYlNuNWJvODVtbld3KzNVQT09
Next scheduled zoom session: June 2

Men's Spirituality Group

The Men's Spirituality Group meets in the Senior Lounge on Saturday morning from 10:00 - 11:00 AM. Seating is limited. Please contact Deacon Bob of Father Steve to reserve your place. Next scheduled meeting: June 19

St. Francis Memorial Scholarship



ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Southern Regional, Pinelands Regional, Barnegat HS & MATES

On behalf of St. Francis Parish, we are pleased to offer High School Seniors an application for the St. Francis Memorial Scholarship. Applications are available by contacting Marie Maslanka, Parish Secretary at mhuber@stfrancislbi.org or (609) 494-8813 extension 155.

The following criteria will be considered in selecting the recipients:

- The candidate attends Mass and participates in service to the Parish, school and community. Through these endeavors the candidate demonstrates the qualities of the St. Francis philosophy.
- 2. The candidate provides a letter of recommendation from the leader of the parish ministries in which he or she serves.
- 3. The candidate can show that they are academically responsible.
- 4. The candidate has been accepted as a first year student in college or technical school.
- The candidate can establish the need for additional financial supplement for college.

The application and personal reference must be received by **Friday**, **May 28**, **2021**.

Weekly Reflections...

The reading today from Acts of the Apostles focuses on St Peter and a replacement apostle for Judas. I imagine that either candidate of Barsabbas or Matthias would have been an acceptable choice. But the method of choice for such an important role fell to LOT and Matthias was the lucky choice. There were two other people at the time who received the title of APOSTLE, which translated to "one who is sent". Paul was given the title as well after he was given a vision, blinded and had a change of heart about the followers of Jesus. He too would express his mission sent by Jesus to the Gentile community. In the post resurrection gospels Jesus appears to Mary Magdalene and said, "tell my brothers I will meet them in Galilee." She was honored to receive the title therefore as Apostle. Matthias, as so many of the other Apostles, was martyred and stoned to death for the faith.

The second reading from the Letter of John continues the theme of Love. I find it is not always easy to Love as Jesus loved us or the Father in haven has loved us. But as Baptized Christians that is exactly what we are called to do. In the Gospel of Matthew 5:46, Jesus said "if you love those that love you what merit is there in that? Do not tax collectors do as much?" I know that is a stumbling block for me. I must constantly pray: *Dear God help me to be more loving and patient with the people around me.*

We see in the Gospel of John, it is a prayer for the followers of Jesus. This prayer was made before Jesus' death. The message that I would interpreted...a way of life for Jesus and a way of life for us. Jesus was thinking not so much about his life but a life to service to others. That may be a question placed before us. How do we think about the needs of others. Gale Sayer, Hall of Fame running back for the Chicago Bears made famous for me the expression "I am Third", God first, People Second and I am Third. I could not help but think as I enter the Parish Center how generous our parish is. The food pantry being a great witness to taking care of the needs of others. In John's Gospel 21:15 Jesus asked Peter "do you love me?" Yes Lord, "feed my sheep." That scripture passage is put into action by our parish.

Kevin Daly, ofm

Parish Collections

Second Collection Today:

Catholic Communication Campaign

The National Catholic Communication Campaign, in partnership with the communications office of the Diocese of Trenton, is an important Catholic voice in the media: educating, entertaining, inspiring and informing the public about Gospel values. Your donation helps continue the work of bringing the Good News to people everywhere.

Last Week's 2nd Collection Youth Ministry Scholarship Fund

Collected: \$4,256

This Week We Need: Budgeted: \$22,000

Last Week's Collection

Budgeted: \$22,000 Collected: \$18,963





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

Sponsored By: St. Francis of Assisi Parish



4700 Long Beach Blvd. Long Beach Township, NJ 08008 (609) 494-8813 • stfrancisparishlbi.org

FB: StFrancisParishLBI • Instagram: StFrancisChurchLBI

2021 Jeep Renegade Valued at: \$28,075
2021 Jeep Compass Valued at: \$28,150
2021 Jeep Cherokee Valued at: \$29,305
2021 Jeep Wrangler (yellow) Valued at: \$31,675
2021 Jeep Wrangler (blue) Valued at: \$31,675

Only 3,000 Books Available

Five chances to win in each book. Tickets sold in booklets only. Books cost \$100.

Bearer is entitled to win all five vehicles. Each book may carry more than one name. Joint ownership is possible at the discretion of the bearer. The drawing for all five vehicles will be Saturday, October 9, 2021 at the Annual Spaghetti Dinner, St. Francis Community Center Gymnasium. Winner need not be present. No substitution of prize or cash in lieu of prize. Proceeds benefit St. Francis of Assisi Parish.

Please make your check payable to St. Francis Parish & indicate "Car Raffle" on the envelope. 2021 Car Raffle

Name:		 	
Street Address:			
City:	State:	 Zip:	
Phone:			
# of Books Requested (\$100 each) Credit Card purchase must be presented			

Adult Faith Enrichment and

RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Mini Retreat on the Holy Spirit After the 9:00 AM Mass in the Church

Beginning Tuesday, May 18

The retreat will provide a short reflection on the Gifts of the Holy Spirit (one gift each Tuesday for the next 8 weeks) All are invited to pray and reflect on the Holy Spirit in our lives today. No need to register...there will be room for all.

GOSPEL CHALLENGE:

In the Gospel we hear that Jesus seated at the right hand of God continues to work with the disciples as they continue their ministry.

Do I turn to Jesus to inspire me in my ministry?

Family Faith Formation



Judith Clayton, Director of FFF (Ext. 153) jclayton@stfrancislbi.org

Eileen Bowker, Youth Minister (Ext. 178)

Angie Graiff, Elementary Coordinator (Ext. 150)

Mary Lou Ligus, Administrative Assistant (Ext. 179)

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

The Family Faith ministry has been working for over a year on the formation of a Family model catechesis. Our new program will begin in September with a Mass and dinner. Families will meet their catechists. Books and materials will be given to the children at that time. With the expansion of the program we are in need of a number of catechists at all grade levels. If you are interested in serving in this ministry please contact our office. there is a training session scheduled for June. Please don't forget to register for the 2021-2022 classes. Contact Marion Pierri if you need further registration information.

Monthly Meetings:



St. Francis Center unless otherwise noted

Order of the Franciscans Secular ofs Sunday, June 6, 1:00 PM, Fraternity "Zoom" Meeting.

Survivors of Suicide

Meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM via "Zoom". Call Sr. Pat McNiff, osf at (609) 494-8813 for more information.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Fish & Chip Dinner

Thistle of Kearny returns!



Saturday, June 12

4:30 -7:00 PM

\$20 adults / \$10 child St. Francis Community Center Gym

Take Out Only

Take out dinners begin at 4:30 PM. Includes: Fish or Chicken Dinner. Beverage and Dessert

Tickets are on sale at the Front Desk of the Community Center and a limited amount of tickets will be available the day of the

> Proceeds to benefit St. Francis of Assisi Parish (609) 494-8861 ext. 118.

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.

Parenting AFTER

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

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



Employment Opportunity



Seeking individuals with a warm, nurturing, and friendly personality, be able to relate well with children and families. Be willing to fulfill his/her responsibilities in accordance with the Center's/ Children's Services Philosophy/Mission Statement. Prefer a background in early childhood education and/or experience working with children. Must be 18 or older. First Aid & CPR Certified and Bi-Lingual a plus.

<u>Positions:</u> Year-round - Full-time (with Benefits), Part-time, and substitute

Pay: \$12.00 per hour Days: Monday-Friday

Counseling Services

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

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

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

Summer Camp 2021- Seasonal Employment

Seeking self-motivating, understanding, creative, fun, and responsible individuals to care for children 5 years to 13 years of age. First Aid & CPR Certified and Bi-Lingual in Spanish a plus. Experience preferred, but not required. Must be 18 or older and be available 6/21/21 to 9/2/2021.

Positions: Camp Counselor Full-time (40 plus hours) and

Part-time (29 hours)

Head Counselor- Full time (40 plus hours)

Pay: Camp Counselors - \$12.00 per hour Head Counselors - \$13.00 per hour

Days: Monday-Friday

Recreation/Pool

Positions: Private Swim Lesson Instructors

For year round employment for an indoor pool and 2 seasonal outdoor pools. Pool lifeguard certification, CPR/AED and First Aid Certification are not required but preferred.

<u>Days:</u> For weekend and weeknight lessons, Age 4 years to adults Hours range from 8 to 29 per week, (may occasionally exceed 29 hours dependent upon season)

Job Type: Part-time

Senior Services

Positions: Full time Outreach and Information Assistance Worker Days/Hours: 40 hours a week- Monday-Friday

Pay: \$12 per hour

Must have Phone/Communication, Computer & Organization

Must have valid driver license. Due to COVID-19 restrictions all work is being conducted from the office however normally the position requires home visits with clients.

**All full-time positions are offered benefits including Health Care, Paid time off, life insurance, 403B Matching and more.

Please send resumes to Amy Bodine abodine@stfrancislbi.org

St. Francis Center is an EOE/AA Employer

Senior Services

For information call ext. 108 or 109.



During these uncertain times, although we do not know when our exercise, socialization and recreation programs will resume, please keep in mind we are here for you.

We are still providing the following:

Information and Assistance Telephone Reassurance Calls Caregiver Assistance

Options Counseling:

Application Assistance for PAAD (Pharmaceutical Assistance for the Aged and Disabled), Meals on Wheels, SHIP Counseling (State Health Insurance Program), Energy Assistance, JACC (Jersey Assistance for Community Caregivers) and many more.

Please call (609) 978-6220 if you are in need of services.

Jersey Cares - Senior Shoppers Program

If you are 60 years or older and in need of food shopping services, you should know that the Ocean County Office of Senior Services and St. Francis Senior Services has partnered with a reputable nonprofit, Jersey Cares, to provide this service.

You can be assured your safety is our top priority and that all volunteers are fully vetted including background checks.

If you are interested in participating in this program please call St. Francis Senior Services at (609) 978-6220 or St. Francis Senior Services Berkeley Office at (732) 244-9600.

Educational Services

For information call ext. 185.

St. Francis Adult Basic Education FREE Classes

Due to COVID-19 all classes have been moved to a virtual platform with live instruction. All classes will maintain a weekly class schedule. Classes will return to in person instruction when possible.

The Adult Basic Skills Consortium of Ocean County provides Adult Basic Skills (ABE), High School Equivalency (HSE) and English as a Second Language (ESL) classes. The program offers college and career readiness skills, assist students interested in post-secondary education or training, credentials, obtaining citizenship skills and resources to enter and/or retain employment. All classes and services are provided by the Ocean County Basic Skills Consortium through a grant from the NJ Department of Labor & Workforce Development. Classes are subject to change. Visit our website

at: stfranciscenterlbi.org/educational-support.

Recreation & Aquatics

For info. please call ext. 105. Visit the **Spring Brochure** online at *www.stfranciscenterlbi.org* or pick up a Brochure at the Center lobby.

SAVE THE DATE:

Summer Aquatic & Recreation Class registration begins on Monday, **June 14** at 9:00 AM.

Annual Blessing of Lifeguards



St. Francis Aquatic Center in Brant Beach Please join us as we bless those who protect and guard us at swimming pools and on the beaches.

Pickleball

A cross between Ping Pong, Tennis, Racquetball and Badminton. Pickleball is played as a singles or doubles game. It's a great sport for teens and up including baby boomers and active seniors.



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

in the Gymnasium

Pickleball ends on Friday, May 21.

Community Center Donations



St. Francis Center/LBICC is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax-deductible. Our federal tax ID number is 22-2003458. We have provided supportive services to the community for over 45 years and with your help we will continue to do so. Our online donations are processed by *PayPal* so it's fast, easy and secure. We are only able to process online donations from NJ residents only.

If you would like to recognize a donation to the Center in someone's name, donation cards are available at the front desk of the Center and at the Parish Office.

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Family Support Services Food Pantry Hours:

Tuesday & Thursday: 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

By Appointment Only

St. Francis Human Concern Food Pantry is operating by appointment only. Food Pantry hours will remain Tuesday & Thursday 10:00 AM-2:00 PM. Please call (609) 494-8861 ext. 171 or 172 to schedule your appointment. Upon arrival for your appointment, you will be asked to park in a designated parking spot in the first row of parking spaces in front of the building. Please call when you arrive.

Pantry based text alerts

We now have a text message alert system which will alert you to any changes to the food pantry and any projects going on.

TO ENROLL TEXT "PANTRY" TO 833-511-0760

carrier text message rates may apply

Pantry procedures are subject to change at any time and clients should call St. Francis Community Center at (609) 494-8861 or check Facebook for the most up to date information about the food pantry.

**If you are experiencing any symptoms or have tested positive for COVID-19, PLEASE STAY HOME & make arrangements for someone else to pick up food for you! **

St. Francis is asking for donations for the food pantry.

Baked Beans, Chef Boyardee Canned Pasta, Canned Beef Stew, Chili, Hamburger Helper, Ketchup & Mustard, Coffee

We are still in need of Personal items: Shampoo, Deodorant, Toilet Paper, Dish Detergent, Laundry Detergent

Gift Cards to:

Acme, Murphy's Market, Shoprite, Target or Walmart

Donations for the Food Pantry can be left in the bins marked "donation" in the front of the Community Center.

If you would like to make a monetary donation to the Food Pantry it can be made through our website: http://stfranciscenterlbi.org/donate via PayPal.https://a.co/00HTAhy or can be dropped off at the Community Center.

Parenting and Anger Management Groups

St. Francis Community Center and locations throughout Ocean County. To register, please call (609) 494-8861 ext. 197. Funded by the Department of Human Services.



Auto Ownership Program

The Auto Ownership Program at St. Francis Community Center is looking for donated vehicles. Donated vehicles are provided to TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) recipients for whom transportation is a major barrier to employment. Cars are donated, repaired, and turned over to clients involved in a work or training activity of the Ocean County TANF program. All donations will receive a letter and 1098c form for tax purposes.

Please call (609) 494-8861 ext. 197 if you are interested in donating.

Children's Services

For information call ext. 114.



St. Francis Community Center's Preschool and Childcare are fully accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

www.naeyc.org/our-work/for-families.org. We are also a Grow NJ Kids 4 Star Program. www.grownjkids.gov.

Masks will be required for 2 years and up - they will be encouraged to wear a mask throughout the day.

Year-round Childcare for Children TODDLER & PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

Available Care 7:30 AM - 6:00 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

Vacation Club

June 21 through September 2, 2021

Ages 5 to 13 (must have completed Kindergarten)

Did You Know??

The Parents as Teacher program is a voluntary program for families in Southern Ocean County.

Parents as Teachers is a Nationally Accredited program that provides infant and child developmental education and referral services to Southern Ocean County residents who are pregnant or have children under the age of 3 years. The Parents as Teachers program works to help support parents in a variety of areas such as; education through activities on milestones and development, education on breastfeeding and vaccinations, and more. If you are interested in finding out more about this

Self Help Groups

Alcoholics Anonymous

Due to COVID-10 please call (609) 641-8855 for updated meetings and locations.

AA HOTLINE (609) 494-5130

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope to maintain continuous sobriety through a 12-step program of recovery, and to help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

St. Francis Travel

Home Town Travel 128 Bartlett Ave., Bartlett Commons, Rt. 9 South, West Creek, NJ 08092 Call Nancy at Home Town Travel (609) 597-5100 Email: hometowntravel@comcast.net



Sightseeing Trips & Cruises



A special note from Nancy Schott, owner of Home Town Travel: The light at the end of the tunnel is, in fact, finally getting brighter. The world is beginning to open her arms as we prepare to again see the wonders she has to offer. With more people getting vaccinated travel is again becoming a reality. I would like to thank all the parishioners of St. Francis for their past support and look forward to assisting you with any travel plans. Look for our presentations on Iceland & Oberanmergau for 2022.

Painted Canyons of the West

(featuring Utah's five National Parks)

October 3-11, 2021

Highlights of this tour include Colorado National Monument, Moab, Arches National Park, Canyonlands National Park, Dead Horse Point State Park, Bryce Canyon, and Zion National Park with many more experiences. Rate of \$3,649 double occupancy will include: round trip air from Newark, eleven meals, all sightseeing, and some unique culinary inclusions. Please call for more information.

St. Francis Ireland with Father Kevin October 21-29, 2021

Father Kevin will escort a private journey to Ireland with Belfast and Giants Causeway. Round trip airfare on United from Newark (including all current government fees and taxes), seven hotel nights (2-Westport, 1-Donnegal, 2-Belfast & 2-Dublin) with private facilities and full Irish breakfast; including day of arrival. Six dinners including Taste n' Tour Belfast and a dinner show at Taylors Three Rock. Highlights include: Cliffs of Moher, Achill Island, Mass at Knock Shrine, Giants Causeway, Guinness Brewery, and Titanic Belfast along with a city tour there, Dublin and Derry. Double occupancy rate is \$3,499 per person. We currently have 10 seats left. Please call for more information.

Join Father Steve in Iceland February 1-6, 2022

Five years ago Father Steve went to Iceland and said he couldn't wait to go back again! Join him as he returns to one of his favorite destinations. Our custom holiday includes round trip airfare from Newark to Reykjavik, hotel accommodations. For four nights at the four star Fosshotel Reykjavik (inc. taxes and fees), full Icelandic breakfast daily, continental breakfast on arrival at Viking World Museum enroute to the Blue Lagoon (admission and towel), private Golden Circle tour (waterfalls, Kerio crater, geysers and Thingviller National Park) along with a special tomato soup lunch and stable visit to see the Icelandic horses up close and personal while experiencing the gait only these horses have. We will have two chances to see the Northern Lights*. You will also have a free day with optional tours to the black sand beaches of the south shore or explore the inside of a glacier (only place in the world) or see a recent volcano flow. Father Steve will also say Mass. A valid passport and proof of COVID vaccination will be required. Trip requires a minimum of 20 and a maximum of 30 participants. Price \$1,699 per person double. A few singles will be available at an additional charge. Insurance is recommended. *Northern Lights are not guaranteed

Imperial Cities with Oberammergau Passion Play September 19-29, 2022

Set out on an exciting cultural experience of the Imperial Cities of Central Europe featuring traditional entertainment and the epic Oberammergau Passion Play. Highlights include: Budapest, Matthias Church, Fisherman's Bastion, Bratislava, Vienna, Schonbrunn Palace, Cesky Krumlov. Prague, Hradcany Castle, The Passion Play and Munich. Rate of \$6,099 double occupancy includes 16 meals, round trip air Newark, sightseeing, Passion play and much more. For more info. please call Nancy.

Cont'd. in next column

HOME TOWN TRAVEL cont'd.

14 Night Trans-Atlantic <u>Greenland and Iceland</u> aboard Celebrity Summit (Departure from Bayonne and returning from Southampton. August 1-15, 2021. Ports: Sea day, Halifax, NS, two sea days, Qaqortoq, Greenland, overnight in Reykjavik, Iceland and half-day in Akureyri, Iceland, sea day, Kirkwall, Scotland and a sea day before arriving in Southampton.

Thanksgiving Cruise - Anthem of the Seas (Round trip Cape Liberty, NJ) November 21-28, 2021 Have a Royal Caribbean waiter carve your turkey instead of cooking it. Experience the tallest waterslide in North America or snap a photo 450 feet above the beach in CoCo Cay. Rates start at \$1,179 per person and include a \$50/cabin on board credit.

For more information or reservations, contact Nancy at Home Town Travel (609) 597-5100

Community Bulletin Board

Soroptimist Clothes Closet

Stafford Community Center, 25 Pine St., Manahawkin

The Soroptimist Clothes Closet is now open by appointment only on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

With a voucher and an appointment you can choose from: work attire, jackets & coats, everyday clothing, shoes and accessories! Vouchers are available at St. Francis Food Pantry, Churches, & Stafford Community Center.

Call Madelyn at (609) 276-3308 to book an appointment.

National Stella Maris Office

To mark National Maritime Day, the national Stella Maris office will be hosting a virtual prayer service on Thursday, May 20 at 8:00 PM. For information and to register for this virtual prayer service go to: www.usccb.org/stellamaris

Amazon Smile - Fundraiser



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You can support **St. Francis Community Center** by doing your regular shopping with Amazon. Amazon will **donate 0.5%** of the price of your eligible Amazon Smile purchases to Long Beach Island Community Center, Inc. (St. Francis Community Center) whenever you shop on Amazon Smile.

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