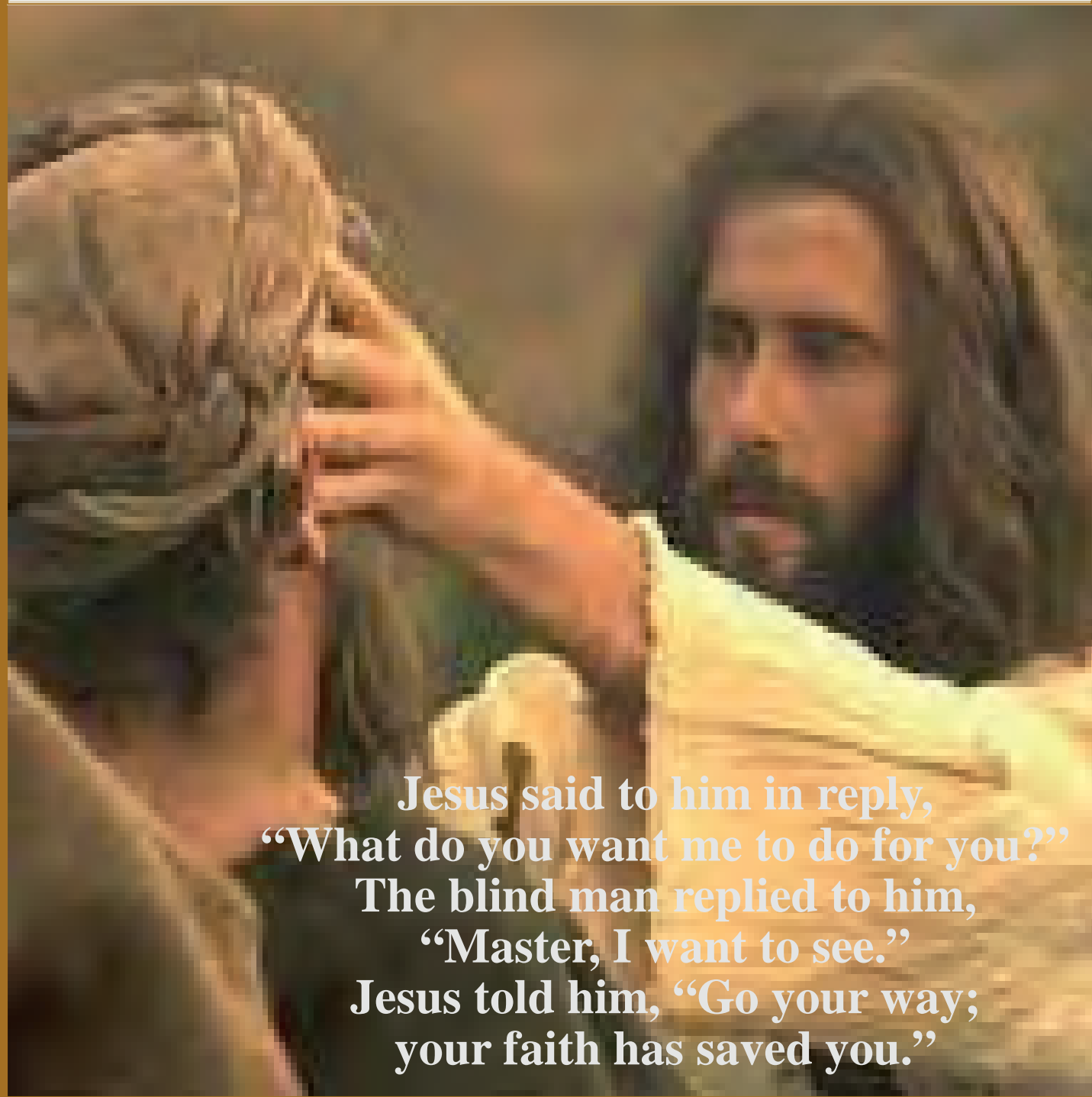


THE BRIDGE



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

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



Jesus said to him in reply,
“What do you want me to do for you?”
The blind man replied to him,
“Master, I want to see.”
Jesus told him, “Go your way;
your faith has saved you.”

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, October 23	<u>(L) Living +Deceased</u> 9:00 AM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i> 3:30 - 4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM +Doris Cocca +Anne Lyons-Glanzman	Rom. 8:1-11; Lk. 13:1-9 Jer. 31:7-9; Heb. 5:1-6; Mk. 10:46-52	
Sunday, October 24	7:15 AM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i> 8:30 AM +Mary Jane D'Eletto +Austin D'Souza +Teresa Cassin 10:00 AM +Mae E. Kempski +Pat & Warren Glaser +Gerald Vile 11:30 AM +Gustavo Acosta +Robert Monaco	Jer. 31:7-9; Heb. 5:1-6; Mk. 10:46-52	10:00 AM <i>Live-Streaming Mass</i> www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi After 11:30 AM Mass, <i>Window Peeking</i>
Monday, October 25	9:00 AM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i>	Rom. 8:12-17; Lk. 13:10-17	
Tuesday, October 26	9:00 AM +Carol Caggiano	Rom. 8:18-25; Lk. 13:18-21	9:30 AM St. Anthony Novena 1:30 PM Book Club, Sr. Lunch Room 7:00 PM Adult Faith Enrichment/RCIA
Wednesday, October 27	9:00 AM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i>	Rom. 8:26-30; Lk 13:22-30	
Thursday, October 28	9:00 AM +Robert Bell +Marge & John Daleo +Phil Palermo	Eph. 2:19-20; Lk. 6:12-16	
Friday, October 29	9:00 AM +Thomas Lally	Rom. 9:1-5; Lk. 14:1-6	
Saturday, October 30	9:00 AM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i> 3:30 - 4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM +Marie Kay +Helen Scalia +Jerry Frohnhoefer	Rom. 11:1-2a, 11-12, 25-29; Lk. 14:1, 7-11 Dt. 6:2-6; Heb. 7:23-28; Mk. 12:28b-34	
Sunday, October 31	7:15 AM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i> 8:30 AM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i> 10:00 AM +Jean Cunningham +Cornelius Fitzsimons +Douglas MacFarlane 11:30 AM +Thomas Johnson, Jr. +Edward Flynn +Anthony Giodano +George Wilson, Sr. 6:00 PM <i>All Saints - Vigil</i> + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i>	Dt. 6:2-6; Heb. 7:23-28; Mk. 12:28b-34	10:00 AM <i>Live-Streaming Mass</i> www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi After 11:30 AM Mass, <i>Window Peeking</i>

St. Thomas of Villanova Church 13th & Long Beach Blvd., Surf City

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS
Sunday, October 24	8:30 AM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i> 10:00 AM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i>
Sunday, October 31	8:30 AM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i> 10:00 AM + <i>Franciscan Mass League</i>

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, 7:15, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30 AM
Live-Streaming Mass - Sundays 10:00 AM
www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbi

St. Thomas of Villanova, Surf City

Sunday, 8:30, 10:00 AM

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

St. Clare, Loveladies - **Closed for the Season**

Praying the Rosary

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



Weekly Reflections...



Fr. Andrew Reitz, OFM, Pastoral Associate

Having read that I have been a priest for fifty years, people have asked me: "What has it been like to be a priest for such a long period of time?" Simply, it has been a blessing from God. For a kid who grew up in a town of 8,000 people and went to public schools, I am humbled that God chose me for this responsibility. I have had great mentors- both Friars and laity- beginning with the Bishop who ordained me,

now deceased Cardinal Joseph Bernadine. What a thoughtful, compassionate, and decent Shepherd he was.

I have had 13 assignments in various parts of the east coast during my 58 years with the Franciscans. Nine of these were after I was ordained and extend from Massachusetts to Florida. Twenty four of those years have been here on LBI: five in Maryland, four in Massachusetts, three in Rhode Island, six in Florida, and nine in New York City. There have been blessings in each place although sometimes I didn't agree with the Provincial at first but later was grateful for being asked to do what he wanted. Thirty eight years of the fifty were in parishes and twelve in Formation houses with our "young Friars." I never thought that I would be involved with the "forming" of our young Friars, but it turned out to be challenging at times and a learning experience at others. I now live with three of my former novices: Fr. Francis, Fr. Scott and Fr. Stephen.

People have asked me: how many weddings I have celebrated, how many Baptisms, how many funerals? A simple answer: quite a few. These have been opportunities to get to know people a little better and to be with them at important times in their lives. I hear frequently from couples that I married thirty or forty years ago. Whenever I go over to St. Mary's Cemetery, I look around and remember so many names that I have known and could tell a story about each. People constantly reflect to me God's goodness and the fact that we are all a little unique.

Now I am a "senior Friar in residence" and daily enjoying "not being in charge" although I am the Guardian at the Friary; this is way of serving my brothers. I have been blessed during these years, challenged, learned much. The kid from Allegany will ever be grateful to God and the Franciscans.

Fr. Andrew Reitz, OFM

GOSPEL CHALLENGE:

"Immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way."

Bartimaeus was not only given his physical sight but gained a new way of seeing...from the eyes of faith and discipleship.

How do I see?

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.

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

Parish Staff

Michele Beck, Director, Music
Fr. Scott Brookbank, OFM
Judith Clayton, Director, Family Faith Formation
Deacon Robert Cunningham
Fr. Kevin Daly, OFM
Fr. Francis DiSpigno, OFM, Pastor
Fr. John Frambes, OFM
Fr. Stephen Kluge, OFM
Sr. Patricia McNiff, OSF
Jo Anne Reeder, Director, Worship
Fr. Andrew Reitz, OFM
Barbara Truncellito, Director, Parish Development

Parish Office - (609) 494-8813
Monday - Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
(Closed for lunch 12:00 - 1:00 PM)

Family Faith Formation - (609) 494-8813 ext. 153
Community Center - (609) 494-8861
Counseling Services - (609) 494-1554

Appeals Box

Second Collection Today:

World Mission Sunday

With this collection, the American Bishops invite us to focus our attention on the great needs of the Church in the Developing World. Your generosity, prayer and personal sacrifice help bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to those in need.

Last Week's 2nd Collection

Parish & Center Administration Expenses

Collected: \$7,788

This Week We Need:

Budgeted: \$28,000

Last Week's Collection

Budgeted: \$28,000

Collected: \$23,263.50



(Online Giving totals are included in the above figures)

** Thank you for your generosity! **



St. Francis of Assisi Parish Online Giving!

stfrancisparishlbi.org

2021 Annual Catholic Appeal

Goal: **\$100,000.00**

Gift Count: **397**

Donors: **296**

Raised: **\$60,209.00**

Collected: **\$57,499.64**

Pledge Balance: **\$ 2,199.36**



St. Anthony Novena

A Novena to St. Anthony
will be held

every Tuesday
after the 9:00 AM Daily Mass

in the Brant Beach Church
beginning this week.

All are welcome.



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

Celebration for the Recently Deceased Members of the Parish

Our parish community will gather for a celebration
for deceased parishioners on

Wednesday, November 3, 2021, 5:00 PM

St. Francis Church - Brant Beach

Family members and friends of those who have died during the past year are invited, as well as parishioners, visitors, and all who wish to gather with us to remember our loved ones.

If you wish, please bring a photo of your loved one which will be brought to the sanctuary during our Mass. The photos will remain in a memorial shrine in the church during November. If you are a visitor in our parish, we invite you to also bring a photo of a loved one who has died in the past year so that we may remember them. Please put a name and phone number on the back of the photo.

Any snapshot or photo that you bring will be welcomed. You will be able to pick up the photo in the sacristy after any weekday or weekend mass beginning **November 20**.

Adult Faith Enrichment and

RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

RCIA and ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT IS BAAAACK.

Any adult interested in becoming Catholic,
or any Catholic who desires first Communion
and/or Confirmation,
please call Sister Pat or Father Steve
at extension 157.

Classes are open to everyone.

"Sacraments [part 2]"

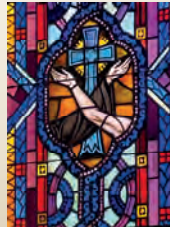
Tuesday, October 26 at 7:00 PM,
Brant Beach Church

Window Peeking

Did you ever wonder what the images
in our church windows mean?
Fr. Steve and Sister Pat will explore the
spirituality that peeks at us through the
windows in our Brant Beach Church.

After the 11:30 AM Mass

Sunday, October 24



Respect for Life Month



October has been declared “**Respect for Life Month**”. One of the most beautiful stories of someone who reached out to protect and love those in his care is that of St. Joseph, the carpenter of Nazareth. Below are excerpts from *Patris Corde*, © 2020, *Libreria Editrice Vatican* about *St. Joseph*.

The infant Christ “came into our world in a state of great vulnerability. He needed to be defended, protected and cared for and raised by Joseph.”

The humble and often hidden carpenter of Nazareth accompanied Mary in her pregnancy, assisted at the birth of the Messiah in a stable, presented Jesus in the Temple, fled with his family far from their homeland to protect them, and lovingly raised Jesus as his own son in the years to come.

While the angel of the Lord appeared to Mary to announce that she would bring forth the Savior of the world, it was revealed to Joseph in a series of dreams how God’s plans would be brought to fulfillment. As Pope Francis highlights, “God trusted Joseph as did Mary, who found in him someone who would not only save her life, but would always provide for her and her child.”

Like every other human family, the Holy Family had to confront real and concrete challenges. Yet, “in every situation, Joseph declared his own fiat.” His “yes” to the Lord meant that regardless of the hardships and personal sacrifice to himself, he consistently chose to put the needs of Mary and Jesus before his own. Joseph’s devotion helps reveal to us our own call to show special care for the lives of those whom God has entrusted to us.

During this year of St. Joseph, each of us can find in him “an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble.” Joseph shows us how to say “yes to life, despite our own fears, frailties, and weaknesses. For it is Joseph who chosen by God to guide the beginnings of history of redemption. He was the true ‘miracle’ by which God saves the child and his mother.”

May we, too, be miracles in the lives of those who are most in need, especially at the beginning and end of life.

Dear St. Joseph, you who were “able to turn a problem into a possibility by trusting always in divine providence”, help us to imitate your faithful trust and courage.

Embrace Our Way of Life

THE FRANCISCAN FRIARS OF HOLY NAME PROVINCE
Franciscan Vocation Ministry
Br. Basil Valente, OFM
129 West 31st Street, 2nd Fl., New York, NY 10001-3403
1-800-677-7788 www.BeAFranciscan.org



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)



Dear families: don’t forget to register your children for the upcoming Family Faith year! We look forward to welcoming you all back in September.

Contact Marion Pierri at mpierri@stfrancislbj.org or (609) 494-8813 ext. 177 for more information on the registration process.

New families to our programs should contact our Director, Judy Clayton at jclayton@stfrancislbj.org or (609) 494-8813 ext. 153.

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.

Read our bulletin online at

www.stfrancisparishlbj.org



Daily gospel reflections can be found on Facebook at:
www.facebook.com/stfrancisparishlbj



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

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:

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

An Invitation to Contemplative Living

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. We will continue meeting by *zoom* on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 10:30 AM for Centering Prayer and Lectio along with resuming our in-person sessions with presentations on the 2nd Saturday in November from 9:45 AM to noon. Email Kathy Egan for more information at: klegan.chaplain@gmail.com
Next scheduled sessions: **November 3, 10:30 AM**, via *zoom*

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: **December 18, 10:00 AM, Sr. Lounge**

Above all the grace and the gifts that
Christ gives to his beloved is that of
overcoming self.

St. Francis of Assisi

Meetings:

St. Francis Center unless otherwise noted.



Book Club

Now through November 2021 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. We will be reading "*The Four Winds*" by Kristen Hannah.

Next scheduled meeting: **October 26, Sr. Lunch Room**

Order of the Franciscans Secular ofs

Sunday, **November 7, 1:00 PM**, Brant Beach Church.
Mass of Profession, Luncheon to follow in Church Hall.

Men's Cornerstone

Tuesday, **January 4, 7:00 PM**, Surf City 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.

Next scheduled meeting: **November 3, Sr. Kate Meeting Rm.**

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. Next scheduled meeting: **November 11, Room 212**

Support St. Francis Community Center When you shop amazon.com!

Your favorite online retailer just got better!
Amazon will donate 0.05% of the profits from your order to help support the Center simply by signing-up for the Amazon Smile program!
<http://smile.amazon>

amazon smile
You shop. Amazon gives.



Peace Prayer Project

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



Employment Opportunity



Children's Services Toddler Room Head Teacher

Seeking a person 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 experience working with Toddlers (13 months-2years of age). First Aid & CPR Certified and Bi-Lingual a plus.

Position: Year-round, Full-time with benefits

Hours/Pay: \$13.00 w/ BA Degree in Early Childhood

Days: Monday-Friday

Counseling Services

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

Days: Monday through Friday (Some evening hours required)

Must complete 40-hour Confidential Sexual Violence Advocate Training (provided free of charge by the agency). On-site clinical supervision is provided.

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

Front Desk

The Front Desk is seeking an afternoon/evenings and weekend receptionist. Applicants must have experience with customer service, answering telephones, and basic computer software knowledge. Bilingual (Fluent English/Spanish) is a plus. Applicants must be able to lift at least 40 pounds.

Position: Year round part-time

Day/Hours: Approximately 15 to 26 hours per week, including some weekends.

Pay: \$12 per hour

Recreation/Pool

Position: Year-round Part-time Lifeguard for an indoor pool and 2 seasonal outdoor pools. MUST currently possess Red Cross pool lifeguard certification, CPR/AED and First Aid Certification.

Days: Monday-Friday, and/or weekend – Daytime shift coverage needed.

Pay: \$12 per hour

Bilingual Parent Educator- Parents as Teachers Program

Position: Full Time Employment. **Applicants must be fluent in both English and Spanish.** Applicants must have a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work, Education, Psychology, or related field. Experience working with children (0-5 years), knowledge of child development and parent-child relationships; flexible availability, non-judgmental and empathetic, knowledge about community resources, ability to establish personal/programmatic boundaries while providing supportive services, Demonstrate strong interpersonal skills and maintain confidentiality. Parent Educator will be required to travel throughout southern Ocean County and must have valid driver's license and reliable transportation.

Days: Monday-Friday

Pay: Starting \$15 per hour (depending on experience)

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. Case worker will be required to travel throughout Ocean County for home visits and to provide transportation to clients.

Days: Monday-Friday

Pay: starting \$15 per hour (depending on experience)

****Background check and fingerprinting required for all positions.**
****All full-time positions are offered benefits including Health Care, Paid time off, life insurance, 403B (retirement plan) with company match, and more.**

**** Part-time positions are offered paid sick time and employee Discounts.**

Please send resumes to
abodine@stfrancislbj.org

SPECIAL EVENTS

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Tuesday, October 26

1:00 - 6:00 PM

St. Francis of Assisi Church Hall



Every day, blood donors help patients of all ages: accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and those battling cancer.

In fact, every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood.

Please call the Community Center at (609) 494-8861 ext.118 or visit: www.redcrossblood.org to schedule an appointment.

For detailed donor eligibility questions, please call **800-RED-CROSS** or visit: redcrossblood.org.

Christmas Craft Show & Sale

Saturday, November 20,

9:30 AM - 4:00 PM &

Sunday, November 21,

9:30 AM - 2:00 PM

St. Francis Community Center Gym

Chance Auction on Saturday, **November 20**

with items donated by the Crafters.

Admission: \$2

This Craft Show should be your first stop for holiday shopping. Enjoy many delightful new crafts as well as old favorites.



Beefsteak Dinner

Friday, December 3

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.

MEDICARE PART D OPEN ENROLLMENT:

St. Francis Senior Services staff are trained State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) counselors for assistance in Medicare A, B, C or D information. Do you know the difference? Medicare A primarily pays for a stay in the hospital, or a skilled nursing facility, B is for doctor's services and outpatient services such as lab tests, C pays for the Medicare Advantage or managed care alternative to traditional Medicare and D of course is the prescription drug plan. Soon Medicare beneficiaries will once again need to make a decision about their prescription drug coverage. Medicare Part D open enrollment period **runs through December 7th**. During this time, people with Medicare can sign up for a prescription drug plan or switch their current Medicare Part D plan in order to have the best coverage beginning January of 2020. And yes, it's best to check each year for changes. Open enrollment is also the perfect time to review your Medicare Advantage plan with a SHIP Counselor to be notified of any changes. What if you cannot afford a Medicare Part D plan? There is federal assistance available for people with Medicare who have limited income and resources. If you qualify, you can receive assistance with premiums, deductibles and prescription co-payments. For an appointment please call (609) 978-6221. We have 3 locations to serve you; LBI, Manahawkin and Berkeley.

Did You Know??

St. Francis Senior Services is in the middle of renovating the offices and the Senior Lounge on LBI. We are looking to bring in new classes and activities for you to enjoy and enroll in. We are looking to start a Knitting/ Crochet Club, a Book Club and offer a beginner Computer Class. We are in need of a volunteer computer instructor and a volunteer Attorney to prepare wills, living wills and POAs for lower income seniors. If you would like to see a certain activity offered or are interested in any of the above, please call Linda Falb at (609) 494-8861.

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

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:

*Baked Beans, Corn, String Beans, Beets, Peas, Carrots,
Side Rice Packets, Taco Products,
School Snacks for Kids, Pasta Sauce,
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

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.

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.

Fall Basketball Clinic

with Coach John Pampalone

Monday-Friday, **October 25-29**; 4:30-6:00 PM

Co-Ed Recreation Basketball League

(2nd - 8th grade; ages 7 - 14)

**Registration starting:
October 26th at 9:00 AM**

thru December 3rd at 5:00 PM



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.

October is National Domestic Violence Month.

With the ongoing Covid-19 Pandemic, we are also hearing the title "The Shadow Pandemic" as it refers to the rise in intimate-partner violence in correlation to lockdowns and rising tension. While this is one of many ongoing concerns in our society as well as our direct community, it is important that we acknowledge and use this time to spread awareness and bring resources to anyone who may be in need of support.

At St. Francis Counseling Service, we serve all victims of crime through grant-funded individual counseling services. Not a victim of crime? We also offer services on an affordable, sliding-fee scale. We are happy to speak with you regarding services we provide or offer recommendations for more suitable services in our area. We are here to help!

You can reach us at (609) 494-1554 during the hours of Monday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Tuesday through Thursday 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM, and Friday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM. Our 24 hour hotline is available by calling (609) 494-1090.

St. Francis Travel

Home Town Travel
128 Bartlett Ave., Bartlett Commons,
Rt. 9 South, West Creek, NJ 08092
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or visit St. Francis Parish Website at: <https://www.stfrancisparishlbi.org/travel>

Community Bulletin Board

Maris Stella Retreat Center, Harvey Cedars, NJ

A Pre-Advent Day of Reflection:

"Birthing Wonder..."

Advent Through the Lens of Scripture"

Saturday, November 20, 10:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Optional Vigil Mass for Sunday is at 4:00 PM.

Presenter: Fr. Steve Kluge OFM

Cost: \$50.00 - Includes "Coffee and..." Bring bag lunch - Drinks & snacks provided.

Non-Refundable, Non-Transferable Deposit: \$25.00 -

Registration due: **November 5.**

Checks Payable to: *Sisters of Charity*

Limited overnight accommodations available on Friday November 20 at an additional cost.

Guests not vaccinated must wear a facemask/practice social distancing when indoors.

dana.marisstella@gmail.com

For more information or to register:
call Sr. Pat (609) 494-2917
or dana.marisstella@gmail.com

Soroptimist Clothes Closet

Stafford Community Center, 25 Pine St., Manahawkin

The Soroptimist Clothes Closet is now open the first and third Wednesday of each month from 4:00-6:00 PM and every Saturday from 10:00 AM-1:00 PM. Free clothing to any women having trouble making ends meet and in need of clothing.

With a voucher 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 for more information. No appointment necessary.

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