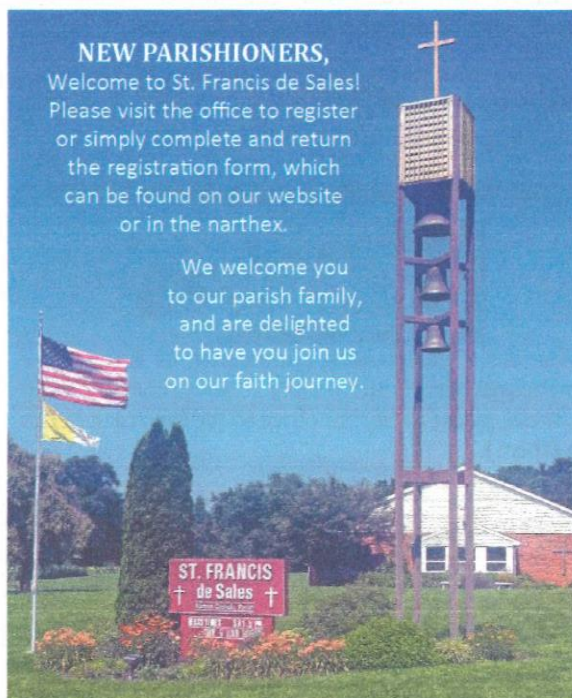


ST. FRANCIS de SALES CATHOLIC CHURCH

320 NORTH CHURCH STREET • ROBESONIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19551



NEW PARISHIONERS,
Welcome to St. Francis de Sales!
Please visit the office to register
or simply complete and return
the registration form, which
can be found on our website
or in the narthex.

We welcome you
to our parish family,
and are delighted
to have you join us
on our faith journey.

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. John A. Frink, M.Div ----- Administrator
Alison Snyder ----- Director of Religious Education
Christina Kopinski ----- Administrative Assistant

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil ----- 5:00 pm
Sunday ----- 8:00 am & 10:30 am

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday - Friday ----- 9:00 am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Thursday 9:30 am - 7:00 pm
and Benediction at 7:00 pm

RECONCILIATION: Thursday 9:30 am - 12:00 Noon and
Saturday 4:00 - 4:45 pm

SPIRITUAL CARE OF THE SICK: Please contact the office
when a parish member has been admitted to the hospital
or has become home bound. Upon request, the
Sacrament of Anointing will be celebrated and Holy
Communion will be brought monthly.

Phone
610-693-5851

Church E-mail
stfrancisrob82@verizon.net

Pastor's E-mail
jfrink@allentowndioocese.org

Website
www.stfrancisroby.org

Office Hours
Monday - Thursday:
8:30 am - 12 noon
& CLOSED Fridays

**Diocesan Victim
Assistance Coordinator**

Ms. Wendy S. Krisak,
M.A., NCC, LPC
Direct Phone: 800-791-9209

**Diocesan Safe
Environment Coordinator**

Pamela J. Russo, MSW, MS
Secretary for Youth Protection
Diocese of Allentown
1515 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive
P.O. Box F
Allentown, PA 18105-1538
610-871-5200, Ext. 2204
610-871-5211 (Fax)
prusso@allentowndioocese.org

CATHOLIC BISHOP ABUSE REPORTING SERVICE: If you have an
allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic
Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or
phone 800-276-1562.

THE MISSION OF ST. FRANCIS de SALES PARISH

*Guided by the gentle spirit and practical teachings of St.
Francis de Sales, we strive to "Live Jesus" in our daily lives.
We proclaim the Gospel, celebrate the Holy Eucharist, and
are nourished through prayer, worship, love, and service to
others. Together we are building a community that brings joy
to our faith and light to the world, which one day will become
the City of God.*

BAPTISM: The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated during Mass or
on Sundays after the 10:30 Mass. Parents are asked to contact the
parish office to arrange a time for preparation and to schedule the
baptism.

CONFIRMATION AND EUCHARIST: Each child must have received a
full year of religious education at St. Francis prior to beginning the
sacramental preparation classes.

MARRIAGE: In order that the requirements for marriage
preparation may be fulfilled, couples are to contact the parish office
at least six months before the desired wedding date.

WILLS AND DONATIONS: Please consider designating St. Francis de
Sales Parish in your last will and testament so that the blessings the
Lord has given you can continue to build His Kingdom here on earth.



December 8, 2024 ✠ Second Sunday of Advent

Mass Schedule for the Week:

Saturday, December 7, 2024

5:00 PM Geraldine Babb

Sunday, December 8, 2024

8:00 AM Rodger Rothenberger

10:30 AM Helen Switay

Mon., Dec. 9, 2024 ~ Immaculate Conception of the Blessed

Virgin Mary

12:00 PM Elizabeth Cason

6:30 PM Our Parishioners

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

9:00 AM

Wednesday, December 11, 2024

9:00 AM

Thursday, December 12, 2024

9:00 AM

Friday, December 13, 2024

9:00 AM

Saturday, December 14, 2024

5:00 PM Ron & Jeananne Wert

Sunday, December 15, 2024

8:00 AM Barbara Hetrick

10:30 AM Intentions for Jessica Areiza

Parish Schedule

Thursday, December 12: 9:30am – 6:30pm - Eucharistic Adoration with Benediction at 6:30pm; Reconciliation from 9:30-10:30am & 5:00-6:15pm

Thursday, December 12: 6:30pm - Reflection on Prayer: What is Prayer? Understand

Saturday, December 14: 9am -Mission Prep Team Meeting

Upcoming Events:

✠ Annual Christmas Dinner for the Women of the Parish @ Stouch Tavern - Dec. 11th @ 6:00pm

✠ Advent Vespers - Dec. 15th @ 3:00pm

Lector & Server Schedule

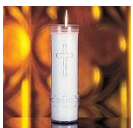
Saturday, December 14th

5:00 PM ~ Servers: Lector: Echeverri

Sunday, December 15th

8:00 AM ~ Servers: Lector: Fleming

10:30 AM ~ Servers: Mirabella Lector: Hampson



~ *Living Flame* ~

Will burn the week of December 8, 2024

For Special Intentions



Pray For Our Sick

Delphine Altland, Alicia Balkjy, Camille Bernardo, Lucia (Lucy) Bernardo, Lisa Boess, Jim Bross, Sr., Betty & Harold Brown, Rosemary C., Mary DeLong, Joseph Disabella, Savannah Ferrell, Pat Fleagle, Mary Ann Flemming, Savannah Ferrell, Judith Goeltz, Michael B. Hasenauer, Nicholas M. Headley, Karen Houck, Rose Howard, John Jones, Leslie & Janet Livinghouse, Florence Kapuscinski, Kathleen Miller, Dave Mitchell, Connor Macey, Joe Noll, Mercedes Rodriguez, Pat Snyder, Layla Rose Stockinger, Andrew Strangarity, Logan Weaver, Eleana Wilson



Readings for the Week

Sunday

Bar 5:1-9; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

Monday

Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday

Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday

Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30

Thursday

Zec 2:14-17; Lk 1:26-38

Friday

Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday

Zep 3:14-18a; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18(9)

Our Return to the Lord

Week of December 8: Second Collection for
Retirement Fund for Religious

Week of December 1, 2024 ~ \$ 5,394.00
Week of November 24, 2024 ~ \$ 4,963.00



Provide a Merry Christmas for Families
in Need

As always, our parish has volunteered to help **Lifeline of Berks County** help families in need this Christmas. Please choose a tag containing a baby item from the 'Giving Tree.' Bring the new, un-wrapped item and place it under the tree **NO LATER THAN December 19th.** Your generous donation will then be delivered to Lifeline in time for Christmas. **{Please know gifts left in the church after the deadline DO NOT get delivered.}** Thank you in advance for your generosity.



Advent Vespers is a worship service that marks the beginning of Advent and the Christmas season. It is a liturgical service that combines music and prayer to focus on preparation and the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. Come hear the beautiful voices of our Choir to deepen your spiritual preparation for Christmas as we reflect on the wait while being reminded of God's promise fulfilled in the birth of Jesus.

The Garden Club will be hosting their Annual Greens Holiday Sale next weekend, **December 14th & 15th.** In addition to fresh greens, they are raffling off a vintage Longaberger basket filled with goodies following the 10:30am Mass that weekend. Be sure to purchase your raffle for \$5 for your chance to win the basket located in the narthex. As always, thank you for your support.



Today we hear John the Baptist crying out his Advent message in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight his paths." He is proclaiming repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

Luke likens John the Baptist's message to the prophecy we heard from Isaiah. In the ancient world, whenever an important ruler was set to visit an area, all the roads of the area were repaired: valleys filled in, winding roads made straight, rough roads made smooth. All this was done so that the visit would be pleasant, and delays could be avoided. And the people would benefit too, because the ruler would bring gifts and declare a holiday. All this preparation led to a welcome.

John the Baptist is inviting us to make a similar preparation for welcoming the coming of our God in Jesus. Those who wish to welcome the Lord of life should desire to fill in the valleys created by our sins, make the winding roads of our conflicting desires straight, and smooth the rough roads of our anxieties and fears. This is repentance: a graced change in the way we choose to live. And the gifts that the Lord will bring us are the forgiveness of our sins and a deeper sharing in the very life and love of our God.

He is reminding us: If you really want the love of God shown to you in Jesus to fill you more deeply, then you must be willing to make room for him in your heart. You must clean out anything that takes up the space that he wants.

As we continue our preparations for welcoming Jesus among us, let us heed John the Baptist's invitation: "Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight his paths." With the grace of God, let us choose to turn from our sinfulness more completely, so that our God can more easily come and dwell in us.

*Come prepare and celebrate the Birth of Christ with your church family!
We will begin preparing our hearts and minds for the anniversary of our Lord's
birth this Advent Season on Sunday, December 1, 2024.*

† **ADVENT VESPERS**

Our music ministry has prepared a program consisting of secular and non-secular music of the season, as well as some Christmas caroling, to be held on the Third Sunday in Advent, December 15th @ 3PM.

† **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY ~ HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

Monday, December 9 Mass Times: 12:00 Noon & 6:30 PM

† **EVENING MASS**

Throughout Advent, the daily Mass time for Mondays will be at 6:30 PM. Daily Mass will resume at the regularly scheduled time of 9:00 AM on Monday, December 30.

† **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION ~ EXPERIENCE THE REAL PRESENCE OF JESUS**

Throughout the Advent season, there will be all day adoration on Thursdays following the 9:00 AM Mass and will conclude at 6:30 PM with Benediction. You will also have an opportunity for confession in the morning from 9:30 – 10:30 AM and evening 5:30 – 6:15 PM. There is an online sign-up on our website - as well as a binder in the vestibule - for signups to make sure someone is present in the church with the Blessed Sacrament.

And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at His birth. Luke 1:14

Christmas Mass Schedule

Tuesday, December 24: 5:00PM & 8:00PM

Wednesday, December 25: 9:00AM

Wednesday, January 1: 9:00 AM

*Church offices will be closed from Christmas through New Years.
We will resume normal hours on Monday, January 6, 2025 @ 8:30am*

Thank you

With the delicious treats made by our parishioners and the generosity from our parishioners at the Fun & Social Bake Sale, the ministry donated \$300 towards the building of the School of St. Joseph by Fr. Stephen. Thank you everyone for making this such a success!



As I mentioned during my homilies over the last few weeks, I ask for your free will support in helping to grow and sustain St. Joseph School in Ghana founded by Fr. Stephen, a true servant of God who is dedicating his life to educating and empowering the next generation. Your generous free will donations will help provide educational opportunities for children who may otherwise have none, and will honor the legacy of Fr. Stephen's mission. Every contribution, no matter how small, is a step toward transforming lives through the power of education. Some examples of the estimated cost to achieve this opportunity are (but not limited to):

Cost of educating ONE child per year ~ \$150.00 (estimated 350 total students)

Cost of building ONE 30-seat school bus ~ \$15,000 - 20,000

Cost of ONE photocopier machine ~ \$ 500.00



If you are interested in contributing, I ask you to please send in your free will donation in an envelope marked "Fr. Stephen's School" by December 29th. Your generosity will be deeply appreciated.

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Heavenly Birthday Wishes To Our Mom,
Mary Ann Rosenbaum
We Love & Miss You Very Much
Your Five Kids!! XO

ACCEPT GOD'S CHALLENGE

OBLATES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

If Interested in a vocation to the priesthood or brotherhood, contact:

~ Fr. Tim McIntire, OSFS ~
(610) 282-1100 X1393

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