

Devoting Support ^{to our}

FAITH

Community

STAYING CONNECTED

God's work continues during
the COVID-19 pandemic.

INSIDE

How COVID-19 has
impacted our parish

PLUS

We need you! All the
ways you can be part
of our parish!



Staying Connected During COVID-19

I have been keeping the parishioners of Saint Francis of Assisi Parish in my daily prayers during this pandemic. I can't even imagine the difficulties you must be facing; balancing family, job, school and everything else that has been made more complicated by COVID-19. During this stress-filled time, I want you to know that our parish continues to care for the spiritual and material needs of our faith community.

Once our church building was closed in March, Saint Francis of Assisi Parish began to stream Masses, devotions and informational updates to our parishioners via our website and Facebook page. We conducted a parish phone outreach, especially to the elderly and homebound and created volunteer cleaning crews to sanitize the church and restrooms after each use. We implemented home-based and online Faith Formation for our young members.



Rev. William G. Berkey
Pastor

Ways You Can Give



St Francis of Assisi Parish
101 W. Church Ave.
Masontown, PA 15461



9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Monday-Friday



sfoafayette.org
(there is a link to OSV online giving)

Sadly, as you can imagine, the virus has greatly impacted every form of stewardship. If you are willing to give of your time and talent to help those in need, please look for our ministry listings and contact us to volunteer. Even though we cannot gather as we normally would, this may be an especially good time to consider a ministry in our parish so that when we do begin to gather, you will have an idea of how you want to serve our community of faith.

Additionally, as you might imagine, your continued financial support during this difficult time will help our parish to maintain and to continue God's work. And so, with great sensitivity to whatever your circumstances might be, I humbly ask, if you are able, that you consider an increase in your weekly or monthly offertory. You can make that commitment online or by sending those donations directly to the parish via U.S. Mail or by visiting our website for online offertory.

COVID-19 and its Impact on our Faith Community



Our parish offertory was reduced because of limited Mass attendance, but it was greatly assisted by those who sent contributions to the Diocesan Lenten Appeal, supported our fundraising efforts and continued to send their contributions.

Our parish suffered from the loss of fundraising monies. Our spring Cash Bash and Summer Celebration had to be cancelled, but were reconfigured to include an outdoor Summer Cash Bash, a take-out only pasta dinner and basket raffle and an October calendar ticket. Your support of these events is greatly appreciated. Profits from these events helped to recover a portion of the money needed and provided a way for the parish to stay connected.



Parish Statistics



Registered Households



2018: 757
2019: 688
2020: 649

Single Member Households



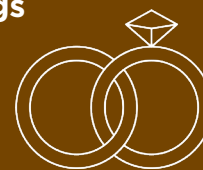
346

Baptisms



2018: 14
2019: 18
2020: 19

Weddings



2018: 5
2019: 4
2020: 1

Funerals



2018: 55
2019: 77
2020: 57

Parish Financials

	2018	2019	2020
Offertory	\$ 475,174	\$ 462,749	\$ 404,542
Other Ordinary Income <i>(monthly collections, votive candles)</i>	6,841	4,618	704
Extraordinary Income <i>(bequests, donations, fundraising, interest, rental income)</i>	110,954	144,629	133,830
Diocesan Lenten Appeal Refund	5,859	1,728	1,538
Other Non-Assessable Income <i>(The Catholic Accent, sale of property, insurance reimbursements, and PPP Loan)</i>	63,098	5,916	116,863
Special Collections	29,351	18,153	16,613
Total Income	\$ 691,277	\$ 637,793	\$ 674,089
Expenses			
Administration	\$ 149,174	\$ 141,201	\$ 149,798
Church	33,243	27,927	28,422
Rectory	30,482	27,208	29,979
Education and Ministry	86,724	64,870	62,179
General Expenses	336,321	305,838	303,369
Special Collections	29,351	23,002	16,716
Extraordinary Expenses	29,003	35,862	59,718
Total Expenditures	694,297	625,907	650,181
Net Operating Income (Loss)	\$ (3,020)	\$ 11,886	\$ 23,908

Capital Improvements

Your contributions to our parish helped to maintain the facilities, which is a big job, making them the center of prayer in our community. Over the last three years, we were able to seal the parking lots, make repairs to the buildings and sidewalks and to the roofs and gutters. We were able to clear brush, trim and remove trees. In addition, we maintained six parish cemeteries, making them fitting resting places for our loved ones. None of this could be possible without your help and we are very grateful.



Ministries at St. Francis of Assisi

St. Francis of Assisi encourages its parishioners to participate in one of our liturgical, social or music ministries. If you are interested, please contact the parish office.

Christian Mothers

Holy Name Society

Knights of Columbus

Faith Formation

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults team

Altar Servers

Lectors

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Cantors

Choir

Greeters

Hospitality and Outreach Ministry

Collection Counters

Church Cleaning

**Gardening
(planting of flowers, weeding)**