

# SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

1046 WEST CEDAR STREET - ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 18102  
(610) 433-6102

WWW.STFRANCISALLENTOWN.ORG

FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM: @STFRANCISALLENTOWN

*February 16, 2025*  
*Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*



## *Pastor*

Reverend Joseph S. Ganser, M. Div., M.A.

## *Mass Schedule*

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 PM  
Sunday: 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM  
Daily: see Mass Schedule  
Holy Day: (Vigil 7:00 PM) 8:00 AM

## *Sacrament of Reconciliation*

Saturday: 3:15-4:00 PM  
Monday: 6:15 PM (before 7:00 PM Mass)  
Anytime by appointment

## *Adoration Chapel*

Please consider spending some time with our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Our Adoration Chapel is located between the Church and the school building.  
**Open daily from 7:00 AM—9:00 PM.**

## MISSION STATEMENT

**We, the family of  
Saint Francis of Assisi,  
aim to inspire hearts of**

**compassion, kindness,  
and love through  
our worship of the  
Holy Eucharist.**



## SACRAMENTAL AND PARISH INFORMATION

### **New Members**

Welcome to Saint Francis Parish. Please call the Parish Center Office in order to register in our parish, or stop in during office hours or on the weekend after all Masses. One needs to be a member of our parish three months in order to receive a certificate of eligibility. Please notify the office if you change your address or move away.

### **Religious Education (PREP)**

All children of the parish should be receiving religious instruction through our parish school or through our Parish Religious Education Program which has been combined with the Cathedral of Saint Catharine of Siena. Please contact the Coordinator of Religious Education, Donna Sciacca at 610-432-7655 or by email at [prep@cathedral-church.org](mailto:prep@cathedral-church.org)

### **Marriage**

We look forward to celebrating God's gift of love in the sacrament of marriage for any registered and practicing parishioner. Diocesan policy states that contact should be made one year, but no later than six months, prior to the proposed date of marriage in order to begin pre-nuptial instructions. Call the Parish Center Office for further information.

### **Baptisms**

Baptisms are held for our registered (at least three months) and practicing parishioners normally the first Sunday of the month immediately after the 10:30 Mass. Parents are to register for a Baptismal Preparation Class held normally on the Wednesday before each baptism in the Parish Center. At least one Godparent must be a practicing Catholic for the valid reception of baptism. That person must also be able to receive a certificate of eligibility from their Catholic parish. A Non-Catholic Christian is permitted to act as a witness. Parents should begin to make arrangements for a baptism during pregnancy.

### **Godparents & Confirmation Sponsors Info**

You must be at least 16 years of age, have received the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation, must be known to attend Mass regularly and, if married, the marriage must be recognized by the church. These requirements are the universal law of the church. All requests for 'Letters of Good Standing' are to be made well in advance to the Parish Office.

### **Ministry to the Sick**

Please notify the Parish Center Office when a parishioner is in the hospital or home and would like to receive communion or the anointing of the sick. Visits can also be made to those parishioners who are homebound and would like to receive confession and communion.

### **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**

We welcome and support all whose faith journey brings them to seek full communion with the Catholic Church. Please call the Parish Center Office for further information.

### **Saint John Vianney Regional School**

We encourage all our parents to consider sending their children to our parish school, Saint John Vianney Regional School. Our school is located at 210 North 18th Street in Allentown. Please contact our school principal at 610-435-8981 to register your child for a faith based, middle-states accredited, Catholic education.

### **Allentown Central Catholic High School**

We encourage our high school students to consider attending our local Catholic high school - Allentown Central Catholic. Please contact the Director of Admissions, at (610) 437-4601 for more information.

### **Wills and Memorials**

As a lasting remembrance or final gift to your parish, all parishioners are encouraged to include St. Francis of Assisi in their wills or as a beneficiary on an insurance policy. At the time of passing of a relative or friend, consider enrolling them in the Sanctuary Memorial Fund. Memorials are available in the Parish Center Office and are often used in lieu of flowers.

### **Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator**

Pamela J. Russo, MSW, MS  
610-871-5200, Ext. 2204

### **Victim Assistance Coordinator**

Wendy Krisak, MA, NCC, LPC  
Direct Telephone Number (800)791-9209

The Diocese of Allentown provides assistance to anyone who, as a minor, was sexually abused by a priest, deacon, or employee/volunteer of the Diocese/Parish. Parents, guardians, children, and survivors of sexual abuse are invited and encouraged to contact the Diocese of Allentown for more information about this program. The fullness of compassion should be extended to these victims by the Church. To learn more about the Diocese of Allentown's Youth Protection Programs, Sexual Abuse Policy, and Code of Conduct, please visit [www.allentowndiocese.org](http://www.allentowndiocese.org) and click on "Youth Protection" in the upper right-hand corner of the page.

If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at [www.ReportBishopAbuse.org](http://www.ReportBishopAbuse.org) or by calling 800-276-1562.





### Sanctuary Lamp Memorials

The Sanctuary Lamp Memorial for the week February 16, 2025 is  
*In Memory of Mary & Stephen Horvath*  
By Elizabeth Brennan

### Floral Intentions

If you would like to offer Floral Intentions in memory or in honor of a loved one, please call the Parish Office. Live flowers can be placed in front of The Holy Family or The Sacred Heart for \$30 each, or \$60 for both sides.



The flowers in front of The Holy Family  
And The Sacred Heart  
for the week of February 16, 2025 are  
*In Memory of John Philips*  
By Mary Ann Philips

### Choir Schedule

The choir will rehearse on Tuesday, February 18th at 6:30 PM in the choir loft. They will sing at 10:30 AM Mass on Sunday, February 23rd.

### Recently Deceased



Please pray for the souls of parishioners Eleanor Burnatowski and Gabriel R. Aiello, who recently passed away. Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and may their families know your peace and comfort.



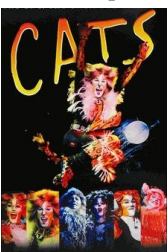
### Parish Office Closed

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, February 17th to observe Presidents' Day.

### Catholic Funeral and Burial Pre-Planning

As Catholics, we are blessed with the promise of life everlasting. Death is not the end but rather the next step. At death, we present our bodies for a sacred Catholic funeral and burial to be prepared for the Resurrection. Choosing a final resting place on consecrated grounds is your choice, your privilege and the right of every Catholic, as well as a confirmation of faith in our everlasting union with our Lord. For information visit: [allentowndiocesecemeteries.org](http://allentowndiocesecemeteries.org) or call Holy Savior Cemetery 610-866-2372, or Resurrection Cemetery 610-395-3819.

### Bus Trip to "CATS" at Fulton Theatre, Lancaster



Join us for a trip to see "CATS" at the historic Fulton Theatre in Lancaster, on Wednesday, July 9th, with a stop at Shady Maple for their lunch buffet prior to the show. Price of \$130.00 covers show, transportation, meal and driver tip. Respond to Stephanie at the Parish Office, 610-433-6102.

## Mass Schedule

### Monday, February 17, 2025

Gn 4:1-15, 25; Mk 8:11-13

The Seven Founders of the Servite Order

No Mass

### Tuesday, February 18th

Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Mk 8:14-21

8:00 AM People of St. Francis of Assisi Parish

### Wednesday, February 19th

Gn 8:6-13, 20-22; Mk 8:22-26

8:00 AM Mary & Stephen Horvath

### Thursday, February 20th

Gn 9:1-13; Mk 8:27-33

8:00 AM Intentions of Bryan Macfarlane

### Friday, February 21st

Saint Peter Damian

Gn 11:1-9; Mk 8:34-9:1

8:00 AM Henry J. Rutz

### Saturday and Sunday, February 22nd & 23rd

#### Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23; 1 Cor 15:45-49; Lk 6:27-38

4:30 PM Mary Jane Bernhard

8:30 AM Richard Zenz

10:30 AM Mary Ann Koefer

### Sacred Heart and Miraculous Medal Novenas



The Miraculous Medal Novena is recited every Monday after the 7:00 PM evening Mass. The Novena to the Sacred Heart is recited on the First Friday each month at the 8:00 AM daily Mass. Each novena



comes with special benefits. All are invited. Father Joe will hear confessions prior to the Monday 7:00 PM Mass, in addition to the Saturday confessions at 3:15 PM.

### Mass Cancellation

Please note that the 7:00 PM Mass on Monday, February 17th is cancelled. Confirmation for our Parish will be celebrated at St. Paul's Church, and Father Joe will be attending, as well as many other priests from this area, making it hard to find a substitute priest.



### Monthly Food Drive

Sponsored by the Outreach Committee

Father Joe and the Outreach Committee are requesting your food donations all weekends until the end of March, due to the high demand for help from the community.



This week, we need Fruit, Peanut Butter and Jelly. Our Outreach Team is also collecting for VALOR (Veterans Assisted Living Out Reach) and we are in need of pop top easy open proteins, vegetables and fruits. Those can be dropped off with FOOD PANTRY items marked in a bag for VALOR.

No glass jars, please. Also, please, no XL containers or outdated foods. Collection carts will be available in the vestibule of the church for your donations.

### Snow Closings



Please note that if the Allentown School District is closed for snow, the Parish Office will also be closed for snow. If there is an hour or two hour delay for the school district, the Parish Office will also open an hour or two late. If the school district closes schools early due to snow, the Parish Office will also close early due to snow.



## Our Weekly Stewardship

Weekend of February 8 & 9, 2025

Sunday in Pew	\$ 3,035.00
Sunday Online	\$ 2,814.00
Second Collection in Pew	\$ 795.00
Second Collection Online	\$ .00

Thank you for your continued contributions to our parish. We appreciate all that you do, financially and other ways, to make our parish great. Please consider online giving. It's safe, easy and secure. Visit our website for more information.

- Preschool Programs, Full Day
  - Kindergarten through 8th Grade
  - Safe Environment, Faith-Filled Curriculum
  - Outstanding Academics
  - Free Tour and Shadow Days
- SJVRS: Educating a child's character, mind, and spirit!  
Phone: 610-435-8981

Email: [principal@stjohnvianneyschool.org](mailto:principal@stjohnvianneyschool.org)

**Call us today to schedule a tour at your convenience!**  
**SJVRS: Educating a child's character, mind and spirit!**

**St. John Vianney Regional School**  
210 N. 18th St., Allentown, PA 18104

### School Mission Statement

St. John Vianney Regional School is a Catholic community dedicated to living our faith in Jesus Christ from Preschool through 8th Grade. Our school and families partner together to encourage an appreciation for our diverse world. In a caring and respectful environment, we develop independent thinkers through spiritual values and strong academics. St. John Vianney students celebrate each day through prayer, education, and service; and embrace tomorrow committed to faith, leadership, and community.

### Positions Available

Saint John Vianney Regional School is seeking candidates for the following openings:

- ♦ Cafeteria Supervisor -3-5 days per week - 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
- ♦ Substitute Teachers K-8

Please respond to the school office at 610-435-8981.

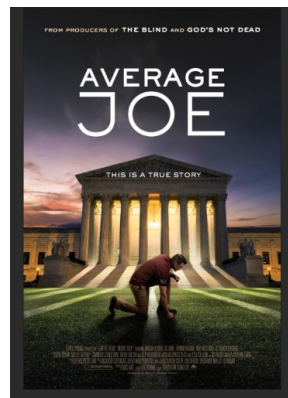


## Make a Joyful Noise!

St. John Vianney Regional School needs your help!  
We are currently participating in an online lip dubbing competition to raise funds for our Catholic schools in the Diocese of Allentown.

Visit [www.weloveourcatholicschools.com](http://www.weloveourcatholicschools.com)  
to VOTE for our joyful video!

Please Vote by February 23rd! Thank You!



### Movie Club Returns!

Join us for Average Joe!

Doors open 3:30 PM/Movie at 4:00 PM, Sunday, February 23rd (March 1st snow date.)

A Marine who becomes a high school coach takes a legal stand to defend freedom and religious liberty for everyone.

Join us for an incredible film based on a true story with a beautiful faith filled message – AS WELL AS – your own TAILGATE TREATS!! Everyone is encouraged to bring in fun tailgate goodies for the film – IF YOU WOULD LIKE. Popcorn, soda, candy will be available - AS ALWAYS.

Movie Club - Always Fun, Always Faithful, Always Free

John Patrick Publishing Company prints our weekly bulletin. To place advertisements on the back of our bulletin, contact Karen Donehower at 484-363-9475.

# MAY

Monday

5	6	7
12	13	14
19	20	21

## SAVE THE DATE

**St. John Vianney Regional School Annual Golf Outing**

**Education Classic**

Benefiting St. John Vianney Regional School

**Registration Information Contact:**  
Pat Witmer: 484-460-9051 / Lee Solt: 610-509-5757  
[educationclassic@gmail.com](mailto:educationclassic@gmail.com)

### Parish Nurses' Prayer Shawls

If you or someone you know needs to feel the power of prayer through one of our prayer shawls, please contact the Parish Office.





### The Friend Ship Ministry

St. Ann's Parish Life Center, 526 Fairview St., Emmaus, 2 to 4 PM on Sunday, February 16th (third Sunday). This is a ministry for young adults with disabilities (19 and up) to foster friendships and sense of belonging through fun, service, and spiritual activities. One caregiver must attend with the participant. To register, contact mciofalo@comcast.net.

### Cold Cash Bingo

St. Mary's Church, 122 Union St., Catasauqua will hold their Cold Cash Bingo on Sunday, February 16th in their Parish Center. Doors and kitchen open at 11:30 AM with Bingo beginning at 1:00 PM. The cost for Bingo is \$15 which includes 15 games, six specials, and one jackpot round. To keep the cost at \$15 no outside food or drinks are permitted. The kitchen will be selling your St. Mary's favorites. Bring your daubers – no hardboards. Reservations are encouraged by emailing kim.stmarys122@gmail.com or calling 610-264-0332.

### St. Junipero Serra Club of Bethlehem

Tuesday, February 25th at St. Anne's Convent, Bethlehem. Rosary 6:00 PM, Mass 6:30 PM, Program Event 7:00 PM to foster, promote, and support vocations to Priesthood, Consecrated Life, Permanent Diaconate, through prayer, good works, and grow in personal holiness; all welcome. (Second and fourth Tuesdays)

### Mardi Gras Bingo

Incarnation of Our Lord Parish is sponsoring Mardi Gras Bingo on Sunday, March 2nd, organized by our Parish Activities Group and will be held in LaBuda Hall (church basement.) Doors open at 1:00 PM, Bingo starts at 2:00 PM. Tickets \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door. Ticket includes 15 bingo games (on boards—you'll need chips) with cash prizes. Omaha Steaks Specials (5 separate games) and food and beverages will be available for purchase.

### Lenten Fish Dinner

St. Mary's Church, 122 Union Street, Catasauqua will hold their Lenten Dinner on Friday, March 7th in their Parish Center from 4:30 to 6:30 PM with dine in or take out available. The cost per meal is \$15 and includes: Fried breaded haddock, homemade tartar sauce and coleslaw, beverage and choice of roasted potatoes or cabbage & noodles, and choice of green beans or stewed tomatoes. If you wish to place a takeout order in advance, please email the parish office: kim.stmarys122@gmail.com or call 610-264-0332 (advanced orders due by March 1st.)




### St. Monica Ministry

The next St. Monica Ministry Holy Hour of Petition and Hope will take place at St. Theresa Church, 1408 Easton Road, Hellertown on Tuesday, March 11th at 6:00 PM. All are invited to bring their petitions before the Most Blessed Sacrament, invoking the particular intercession of St. Monica for their fallen-away loved ones. In this Jubilee Year of Hope, let us pray with renewed trust in Our Lord's mercy. For information, please email StMonicaMinistry27@gmail.com



### Come and See Weekend At St. Charles Borromeo Seminary

Men ages 15+ are invited to a "Come and See" weekend at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Ambler, PA on Friday March 14th to Sunday March 16th. If you are open to discerning the Lord's call to the holy priesthood, this is a great opportunity to see where future priests study, pray and live throughout their formation! The weekend will include Mass on Saturday and Sunday, prayer time and adoration of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. There is also ample time for recreation, visiting a local shrine, getting to know current seminarians and other young men considering the priesthood. For more information and to register, click here: <https://www.allentowndiocese.org/come-and-see-weekend>.

 **A reminder, for your safety and well-being, please lock your car doors and keep any valuables out of sight before coming into Mass.**

### A Simple Act of Care for 2025

As we pause and reflect on our blessings after the holidays and a busy winter season ahead, the Diocese of Allentown invites you to show simple act of care to yourself, your loved ones, and even Saint Francis of Assisi Parish by creating your will. In thanks for your support, we partner with FreeWill so you can make a will and find peace of mind for the year ahead. It's completely free to use and takes as little as 20 minutes. Please scan the QR code or visit <https://allentowndiocese.mygiftlegacy.org/> to get started.



### Liturgical Ministers Schedule Saturday and Sunday, February 22nd & 23rd

	<u>4:30 PM</u>	<u>8:30AM</u>	<u>10:30 AM</u>
<b>Lector</b>	H. Moyer	R. Granitz Jacob	C. Stockdale
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	A. Moyer, P. Stiles, L. Eberly	A. Drovich, J. & F. Lenahan	M. Dietrick, G. Rodriguez, L. Moser
<b>Cantor</b>	G. Rodriguez	M. Issermoyer	Choir
<b>Organist</b>	D. Badesso	R. Venditto	D. Badesso
<b>Altar Servers</b>	V. Herman, M. Joliffe	E. Stano	J. & J. Burgos
<b>Sacristan</b>	J. DeLeo	-----	-----

**A Day of Reflection: The Adventures of Aging**  
395 Bridle Path Road, Bethlehem, PA 18017

Facilitator: Sister Nancy Iampietro, CPS  
February 22nd, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM, first floor conference room at St. Francis Center at Monocacy Manor, \$35 per person, light lunch included. Register online at [www.SchoolSistersOsf.org](http://www.SchoolSistersOsf.org) or by phone 610-867-8890.

**Simply Prayer**

Lent: Season of Hope and Grace-filled Changes  
Facilitator: Sister Barbara Brown, OSF  
March 4th, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM, first floor conference room at St. Francis Center at Monocacy Manor, Free will offering. Register online at [www.SchoolSistersOsf.org](http://www.SchoolSistersOsf.org) or by phone 610-867-8890.

**Praying with the Psalms**

Facilitator: Sister Virginelle Makos, OSF  
March 13th, 27th and April 10th, 2:00-3:00 PM, first floor conference room at St. Francis Center at Monocacy Manor, Free will offering. Register online at [www.SchoolSistersOsf.org](http://www.SchoolSistersOsf.org) or by phone 610-867-8890.

**3 Part Lenten Series**

Francis of Assisi: Sowing Seeds of Hope  
March 13th, 20th & 27th, 6:30-8:00 PM, first floor conference room at St. Francis Center at Monocacy Manor, Cost: \$15 per session or \$40 for 3 sessions. Register online at [www.SchoolSistersOsf.org](http://www.SchoolSistersOsf.org) or by phone 610-867-8890.

**Divorce Recovery Support Group**

If you are suffering a divorce or separation, or perhaps grieving a past divorce, join us for prayers, donuts and encouraging conversation. BYOC - bring your own coffee. St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Whitehall, second floor of the parish office on the first Saturday of each month, 9:00 to 10:00 AM (after the 8:30 AM Mass). The next meetup is March 1st. For information call 505 688-8663.

**The Joyful Feast, Mardi Gras before Lent**

The Commission for Young Adults would like to invite all the Young Adults in the Diocese of Allentown to enjoy an evening indulging in conversation, community, and some delicious foods and drinks we might give up during the 40 days of Lent. Tuesday March 4th, 7 PM-9 PM @ Holy Family Parish Center 508 W. Center Street Nazareth, PA 18064. Please contact Zelenda Hodgskin with questions, [zhodgskin@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:zhodgskin@allentowndiocese.org).

**First Fridays at Padre Pio, Barto**

Friday, March 7th, Mass 10:30 AM, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction, 3 PM.  
First Fridays except July. [www.padrepio.org](http://www.padrepio.org)

**Pilgrimage to Lourdes & Paris**  
July 19-27, 2025

Father Martin F. Kern will be the Spiritual Director. To learn more or book your trip: [www.206tours.com/lorraine](http://www.206tours.com/), Booking Code LH072223, email [Sandra@206-tours.com](mailto:Sandra@206-tours.com) or call 800-206-8687.

**Lenten Retreat for Women**

The Bishop's Commission for Women will be offering a Lenten Retreat for women on Saturday, March 8, 2025. The retreat is entitled Lent: A Time of Forgiveness and Healing. This full day retreat will be held at St. Mary's Parish in Kutztown. The Keynote speaker will be Auxiliary Bishop Keith Chylinski of Philadelphia. Denise Yarrison from Hope's Garden and <https://youaremadenew.com/> will be the afternoon speaker. Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Schlert and Bishop Chylinski. There will be time for Adoration and Confession. A continental breakfast and lunch will be served. Space is limited, please register early. Please use the following link for details and to register: <https://www.allentowndiocese.org/catholic-life/resources-women/lent-time-forgiveness-and-healing>

**Saint Elizabeth Lenten Fish or Crab Cake Dinner**

Join us for our annual Lenten Fish or Crab Cake Dinner on March 21st. Order forms are available on-line at the parish web site [sercc.org](http://sercc.org) or at the parish office. Return forms and payment to St. Elizabeth Parish office, 618 Pershing Blvd., Whitehall, PA 18052 by March 13th. The menu includes Breaded Fish or Crab Cakes, Roasted Potatoes, Vegetable, Coleslaw & Roll. Macaroni & Cheese and Cabbage & Noodles are available for \$3 per container. Cost is \$13.50 per meal for fish and \$21.00 per meal for 2 crab cakes. Dinners are served between 4:00 PM & 6:00 PM in our hall parish hall – 435 Pershing Blvd., Whitehall. . Take out is available for an additional \$1.00. For more info, contact Joanny at [jglover@ptd.net](mailto:jglover@ptd.net) or 610-349-7791.

**Pilgrimage: National Shrines of St. John Neumann & St. Rita of Cascia, Philadelphia**

Thursday, May 8th – \$69, optional lunch \$10. Bus leaves Trident (1060 Flexer Ave., Allentown) at 8:15 AM. Includes Mass, presentation, museum, Adoration, Plenary indulgence opportunity. For reservations/info, contact Jane DeMelfy at [jdemelfy@gmail.com](mailto:jdemelfy@gmail.com) or 484-707-7531. Checks must be in by 4/1/25. Make checks payable to STM Women's Guild and mail to: Jane DeMelfy, 3305 The Strand, Allentown, PA 18103.

**Camp Cadet with Pennsylvania Police Troop M**

The Pennsylvania State Police Troop M will once again be hosting the annual Pennsylvania State Police Camp Cadet Program at Camp Fowler, 5851 Horseshoe Road, Orefield (Lehigh County). Camp Cadet will take place from Sunday, June 8, 2025, through Friday June 13, 2025. Camp Cadet is an overnight summer camp for boys and girls between the ages of 12 to 15 years old. The goal of Camp Cadet is to introduce cadets to the diverse criminal justice system and establish a positive relationship between law enforcement and youth, while living in an atmosphere similar to an actual State Police Academy. For those who are interested in attending Troop M Camp Cadet, registration can be done by going online and registering through this link: <https://www.troopmcampcadet.org/>. Registration is now open throughout February or until slots are filled. Contact: Trooper Nathan T. Branosky at [nbranosky@pa.gov](mailto:nbranosky@pa.gov) or (610) 807 – 3395.



St. Francis of Assisi Outreach Committee Presents

# LUCKY

## Cash and Gift Card



**Saturday, March 15, 2025**

**St. Francis of Assisi Parish Hall**

**Doors Open at 5:30 PM – Bingo starts at 6:30 PM**

**Ticket Price: \$25 In Advance, \$30 At the Door**

**Tickets available in the Parish office**



**20 Games, includes Specials**  
**Cash & Gift Card Prizes range from \$25-\$100**

**Food, soda &  
water available  
for purchase**

**50/50  
drawing**

**Irish “Basket  
of Cheer”  
Raffle**

**No Outside Food or Drinks**

Bingo proceeds to benefit the St. Francis of Assisi Outreach Committee to continue our efforts of assisting those in need in the Lehigh Valley.