St. Francis of Assisi Parish

Phone & Fax: (413) 323-6272 24 Jabish Street, Belchertown, MA

Business Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9 AM - Noon, or by appointment
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 612, Belchertown, MA 01007-0612

Pastor: Fr. David Darcy x3
Pastoral Minister: Paul Vanasse
Office Manager: Louise Christ x1
Maintenance Supervisor: Tom Curto x1

Adoration Line: x6 *(recorded message w/updates)*
Angel Tree: Kathy Wood x7 *(leave message)*
Food Pantry: Roseann Montefusco x8 *(leave message)*

Religious Education Director: Carolyn Groves x2, x1
HS/Confirmation/NCYC: Melissa Hurst x2, x2
First Penance/Communion: Linda Racicot x2, x3
RCIA Coordinator: Judy Trickey x2, x4

Parish Child Advocate: Roberta Lojko (413) 231-0028
st.francisbtown@gmail.com
Personal Resource for Child Protection:
diospringfield.org/Ministries/child-youth-protection/

Email:
francisatbtown@gmail.com
Website:
stfrancisbelchertown.com
Find us on Facebook

Mass Times: Saturday 4 PM ✠ Sunday 8 AM, 10:30 AM ✠ Monday - Thursday 8 AM
Holy Day Mass Times: Consult the weekly Mass schedule
Reconciliation: Consult the weekly Mass schedule, or by appointment
Adoration Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 8:30 AM - Noon, in the main church
Church Visitation Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday following Daily Mass until 6 PM

The temple-cleansing Christ
is a memorable image
with enduring power.
We shouldn't relegate that image
or the Lord himself
to merely a statement
about our impatience
with the corruptions
of religious institutions
and miss the point
that strikes closer to home:
Christ comes to each of us
to rid the temple of our own body
of the idols
to which we have foolishly
given power and pride of place.

- Bishop Robert Barron

Third Sunday of Lent

March 7, 2021

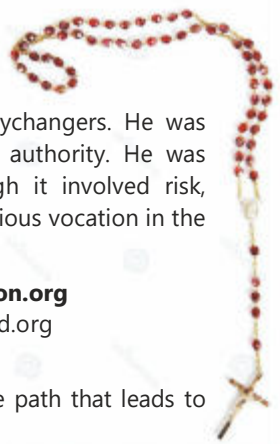
Bulletin Editor: Kathy Kervick ✉ EditorStFran@gmail.com (*Please submit written copy by Monday at 10 AM, earlier if possible.*)

THE HOLY MASS
- This Week's Intentions -

SATURDAY, March 6, 2021 Vigil: Third Sunday of Lent
3:00 PM Reconciliation
4:00 PM The people of the parish *(Bishop Byrne Celebrant)*
SUNDAY, March 7, 2021 Third Sunday of Lent
7:15 AM Reconciliation
8:00 AM ✞ Lorette Beaulieu req. by Ray & Terry Fontaine
9:45 AM Reconciliation
10:30 AM ✞ Mark Walters req. by the Amato family
MONDAY, March 8, 2021
8:00 AM ✞ Stanley Antonovitch req. by Bob & Kay Williams
TUESDAY, March 9, 2021
8:00 AM ✞ Barbara Rosazza req. by Bob & Kay Williams
WEDNESDAY, March 10, 2021
8:00 AM ✞ Jeanne Bush req. by the people of the parish
4:30-6:15 PM Reconciliation
6:00 PM Stations of the Cross
6:30 PM ✞ Anne DelGuidice req. by the people of the parish
THURSDAY, March 11, 2021
8:00 AM ✞ Donna (LaShier) Dejnak req. by Steve Dejnak
FRIDAY, March 12, 2021
8:00 AM No Mass
SATURDAY, March 13, 2021 Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Lent
3:00 PM Reconciliation
4:00 PM ✞ Michael & Stella Pitoniak req. by Marion Moreau
SUNDAY, March 14, 2021 Fourth Sunday of Lent
8:00 AM The people of the parish
10:30 AM ✞ Jeanne Borchers req. by Terry Couture

The Divine Mercy Chaplet
is prayed daily after morning Mass.
Please join us!
Our prayer intention is for Priests to be Holy.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS
- Answer His Call -



Jesus cleaned out the temple of moneychangers. He was angry; He was zealous; He spoke with authority. He was doing what he had to do even though it involved risk, danger, insult and wonder. Such is a religious vocation in the Church.

Is God calling you? Visit: **www.myvocation.org**
✉ vocations@diospringfield.org
Attn: Fr. David Darcy

Please pray for the wisdom to follow the path that leads to life.

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners -

I am delighted to announce that through the generosity of an anonymous donor, the parish has been able to acquire a new video camera system for the church. The system should be up and running by the weekend of March 13 and 14.

Not only will this system allow us to integrate the sound seamlessly, improving the current sound quality; it will also enable us to live-stream - in real time - the weekend and daily Masses as well as adoration, baptisms, funerals, weddings, and other future events happening in our place of worship.

My hope is that this new technology will enhance your connection with our community, as we worship, celebrate, and continue to grow in and live out our rich Catholic faith. We are truly blessed!

Fr. David

WELCOME BISHOP BYRNE

This weekend, we extend a warm welcome to Bishop William Byrne as he celebrates the 4 PM Vigil Mass here at St. Francis of Assisi.

May God bless Bishop Byrne abundantly and guide him in living out his priestly vocation as our new Bishop.

This weekend Mass will be recorded and uploaded to our Website at: *www.stfrancisbelchertown.com,*
to our Facebook page and to YouTube.
It will also air on BCTV 191 on Sunday, March 7 at 4:30 PM.

2021 Annual Catholic Appeal - *"Sowing the Seeds"*

Walking in the footsteps of our risen Lord means we are "Sowing the Seeds" of our faith in the world. Please consider making a donation or pledge to the 2021 Annual Catholic Appeal and become the face of the Catholic Church to your neighbors in need. Your combined contributions reach the unborn, children at risk, the sick, the elderly, and the dying across Western Mass. You help to feed the hungry, clothe those in need, and reach beyond the prison bars to share our faith.
It is simple to give....send in your one-time contribution, or make a pledge using the donation card you receive in the mail, or donate online at: www.diospringfield.org/aca, or ☎ 413-452-0650.
Donations are tax deductible.
Please help our parish meet our goal! Thank you!

THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL

He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out
of the temple area, with the sheep and oxen,
and spilled the coins of the money changers
and overturned their tables, and to those who sold doves
He said, "Take these out of here,
and stop making My Father's house a marketplace."
His disciples recalled the words of Scripture,
'Zeal for your house will consume me.'
At this the Jews answered and said to Him,
"What sign can You show us for doing this?"
Jesus answered and said to them,
"Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up."
The Jews said, "This temple has been under construction
for forty-six years, and You will raise it up in three days?"
But He was speaking about the temple of His body.

Jn 2:13-25

Scripture Readings for March 13-14, 2021

2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21

LENTEN EVENTS

Sacrament of Reconciliation

In addition to regular reconciliation times,
Fr. David will be hearing confessions
each Wednesday of Lent from 4:30 to 6:15 PM.
Note: There will be no parish-wide reconciliation service this year.

The Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross will be held in the Church at 6 PM each Wednesday during Lent.
The faithful are invited to make a pilgrimage, in spirit, to the chief scenes of Christ's sufferings and death.
*Find the Stations and accompanying prayers at **stfrancisbelchertown.com** under Liturgy & Prayer, click Prayer and then click Stations of the Cross.*

Mass

Mass will be offered on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 PM, following the Stations of the Cross.

Lenten Booklets & Rice Bowls are in the gathering space.

FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

Parish Business Office Hours
Monday - Friday 9 AM - 12 Noon, and by Appointment

Please call before coming to be sure someone is available.
Face masks are required for staff and visitors.

2020 Tax Statements

To request a statement, call the office at 323-6272 x1.
All requested statements have been mailed.

ATTENTION FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS

You are eligible to receive the vaccine in Phase 2 of the distribution as a food pantry worker. We have drafted a letter to show proof that you are a food pantry volunteer.

If you would like to receive this letter: ☎ Roseann at 323-6272 x8

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Many prefer a "create as you go" approach to life where laws and protocols primarily exist to secure and protect liberties rather than dictate and outline proper and right behavior. There are no real benchmarks for acceptable ethical and moral behavior, with a "you can't tell me what to do" attitude prevailing. Parents are even limited in what they can request of their children, and dealing with threatening behaviors, especially from adults, are a challenge as well. Acceptable and expected conduct seems to amount to safeguarding each other's space rather than increasing awareness of necessary relationships that require a more refined and higher response.

We have lost our axis to the world of "anything goes" and no longer see the Ten Commandments as practical and wise guideposts to effective living. We live on "relativism island" where only a possible suggestion to "love and do not harm" may be the only standard able to be preached. While Jesus most certainly emphasized love above anything else, it was never about warm fuzzy feelings or halfhearted humanitarian efforts. The love of which Jesus spoke establishes an intimate connection with God, neighbor, self, and creation. Because this love, who is God Himself, is at the foundational core of our lives, it demands actions and attitudes that serve to build up, increase, and free up those relationships. Love requires proper conduct. Preserving and enhancing these love centered relationships is at the heart of the Ten Commandments (and the Beatitudes) and the reason for Jesus' display of anger in the temple.

The Ten Commandments can save the world from turmoil and conflict by instilling basic moral and relational principles within us. They also hold a healthy sense of sin in balance and always remind us of our relationship with God and the freedom God offers. Our faith preserves these jewels of truth that we often look beyond, dismiss altogether, or seek to remove from public view. Human beings can be so arrogant at times. Our Lenten journey, especially when embarked upon with sincerity and resolve, can restore all of our essential relationships. When we get absorbed in life's preoccupations and demands, things can quickly get distorted and we can find ourselves way off track. In short, we find ourselves in sin. Humanity is losing a sense of both grace and sin. We need both to understand what is real and true. Until we do, the oppressive systems and ideologies that hurt so many will never change. We will never change. We are grateful for those courageous souls who willingly embrace the conversion and hard work Lent demands and stand against antiquated systems and ideologies. They give us hope that all is not lost. *©LPi*

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

Weekend Collection for February 27-28 was $6,812.15
Weekly Average since July 1, 2020 is 6,981.61
Mortgage & Expansion Collection for February 1-28 was 11,374.00
Monthly Mortgage Payment is 6,000.00

FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;
the command of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eye. (Ps 19:9)

Father Darcy and the Finance Committee rejoice over your presence with us and your continued financial gifts!

Remember, God will not be outdone in generosity!

Safe. Simple. Convenient.

If you have already signed up to give online, thank you!

If not, please consider signing up today.

1. Go to: **www.stfrancisbelchertown.com**, then click "Online Giving."
2. Select the collection of your choice.
3. Set-up your donation or payment. ***That's it!***

Questions? - ☎ The Parish Business Office 323-6272 x1

THE NEXT SPECIAL COLLECTION

The collection for Catholic Relief Services will be taken up at all Masses the weekend of March 13-14. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the collection and help Jesus in disguise.

Learn more about the collection at *www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.*

K of C March Meal Special!!

Corned Beef Brisket Sandwich
with chips, a pickle and a beverage for $10.

Saturday, March 20, from 3-6 PM
Curbside Pick-Up
at the Social Center, 14 Park Street

Pre-order at:
www.facebook.com/belchertownkofc
or stfrancisbelchertown.com/knights-of-columbus

Only 125 Meals. Walk-Ups Welcome. Cash Only.

Proceeds support the St. Francis K of C council and their charitable works.

FAITH & FELLOWSHIP

Teen Bible Chat

Please stay tuned for updates and/or emails from Gerri.

☎ Gerri Amprimo: 323-8633
or Pat Hegarty: 687-7870

Women of Grace

We are reading and discussing the book *7 Secrets of Confession* by Vinny Flynn. If you do not yet look forward to Confession in the same way you look forward to Communion, this book will reveal 7 secrets and hidden truths about the great spiritual beauty, power and depth of the Sacrament of Confession. A great plan for Lent!

Zoom meetings are held on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays 6:30-8:30 PM.

☎ Rita Lee: 774-200-6464 or Kathy Kervick: 323-8592

Order of Franciscan Seculars

When he was a soldier fighting for Assisi against Perugia, Francis was captured and imprisoned for about a year. He came home very ill and had lost his zest for living his former life. So he took walks in the countryside and there he found the desolate chapel of San Damiano. This encounter would profoundly change his life.

To attend a Zoom meeting with the Secular Franciscans on the 1st Wednesday of every month:

☎ Lynn Carney, OFS: 323-5537 or Kathy Ricardi, OFS: 323-9023

Men of St. Joseph

An association of Christian men, united under the Catholic Church, who meet weekly to pray together and encourage each other to be the spiritual leaders of their families. Men of St. Joseph meetings inspire and equip men to be spiritual leaders in their homes. Some might say our goal is a bit "lofty" - to become stronger in our relationship with Christ and in our faith so we can help get ourselves and our families to heaven. It's a bold purpose, but in the end what else really matters?

Zoom meetings are held every Wednesday from 7:30 to 8:30 PM.

✉ John Rakouskas at john5star@hotmail.com
or Steve Corbin at gmsteve512@gmail.com

Knights of Columbus

St. Francis of Assisi Council 10698's information is available at: facebook.com/belchertownkofc stfrancisbelchertown.com/knights-of-columbus.

The Knights of Columbus are currently meeting on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 7 PM via Zoom.

✉ kofcbelchertown@gmail.com or ☎ PGK Tom Grady: 323-4036

DOWNLOAD myParish app
App Store • Google Play

Parish info, readings and many other resources at your fingertips!

Adoration - Make a Holy Hour

The Soul of Jesus - Excerpt from Divine Intimacy

Presence of God – O Jesus, permit me to contemplate Your soul, the chosen temple of the Holy Spirit, and grant that, following Your example, I, too, may become a temple worthy of Him.

Although grace was created equally by the three Persons of the Blessed Trinity, without any difference or distinction, its diffusion in souls is usually attributed especially to the Third Person, the Holy Spirit, to whom everything that concerns the work of sanctification is referred by appropriation. In this sense the tremendous gift of grace which filled the soul of Jesus must be attributed to the work of the Holy Spirit. The soul of Jesus possesses every supernatural gift because "the Holy Spirit dwells in Christ with such plenitude of grace that no greater plenitude can be imagined." *(Mystici Corporis = Mystical Body of Christ)* This plenitude of grace, which is a created gift, corresponds to the plenitude of the Holy Spirit, who is the uncreated Gift. Jesus, the only One who "received this Spirit in an unlimited degree," *(Mystici Corporis)* has received from Him the immense capital of grace which permits Him to merit it for all of us.

The soul of Jesus is uniquely beautiful, holy, intimately united to the divinity, and all this to such a degree that the Holy Spirit "takes delight in abiding in it as His chosen temple." *(Mystici Corporis)* He dwells in it with such plenitude and sovereignty that He inspires, directs, and guides all the actions of Jesus, and that is why the Holy Spirit "is correctly called the Spirit of Christ or the Spirit of the Son." *(Mystici Corporis)*

spiritualdirection.com/2019/01/07/the-soul-of-jesus

To become an adorer, ☎ Debby Bowen at 323-7080

☎ Adoration Line at 323-6272 x6

Adoration Hours on the bulletin cover - Masks Required

Call the Adoration Line for updates to hours or closings.

CATHOLIC RESOURCES - Know the Faith

Suggested Offering from go.virtualcatholicconference.com/NCWC2021

'My Peace I Give You' is a National Women's Conference being held virtually March 12-14. There will be over 50 speakers and registration is free.

What if you could be at peace most of the time? Exhausting - Busy - Chaotic, how often do you use those words when describing your day? As Catholic women, many of us with kids, spouses, jobs, (and now add homeschool teacher to the list), it is easy to feel like everyone wants a piece of our time and energy. And when that time and energy just isn't there to give, it can leave us feeling guilty. But what if the solution wasn't giving from a place of depletion? What if you already had all of the resources in your day to love your God, kids, husband, friends yourself, and rest in God's peace? Peace is possible. Let's discover it together.

Suggested Offering from FORMED.org - Parish Funded

Brother Francis: The Stations of the Cross - Join Brother Francis as he follows our Lord on his way to the Cross. This episode includes: A short introduction to the traditional Stations of the Cross, and how meditating upon them brings us closer to our Savior; The traditional 14 stations beautifully illustrated with 14 thought-provoking meditations composed especially for children; and, "What More Can He Give" - a moving song that reminds us of Jesus's love for us all throughout his time on Earth.

MICHAEL SWEENEY PRAYER LINE

Please pray for all of the intentions listed on our prayer line, for the sick and dying, the imprisoned and all those in need of spiritual, emotional, physical and/or financial support and healing. Especially please pray:

- For successful surgery on 3/12 and a speedy recovery for Brooke.
- For successful surgery on 3/10 and relief of pain for William.
- For successful shoulder surgery on 3/17 for Deedee.
- For all those in a hospital or nursing home who are without the comfort of family and friends during this pandemic.
- Continued prayers and proper diagnosis, successful treatment and complete healing for Maggie.
- For the safety of our country.
- For the safety of first responders.
- For a cure and eradication of the Coronavirus.
- For an increase in vocations.
- For the health of the priests of the diocese.
- For seminarians and their intentions.
- In thanksgiving for the lives of Jeanne Bush and Anne DelGuidice. Please pray for the repose of their souls and for their families and friends in their bereavement.
- In thanksgiving for all God's graces and answers to the requests of the prayer line.

To have the prayer line members pray for you or a love one:

☎ Office: 323-6272 x1 or ✉ francisatbtown@gmail.com;

or, visit www.stfrancisbelchertown.com,

click *Liturgy and Prayer*, then *Prayer.*

PRO-LIFE – Because Life is Sacred

St. Francis Prayer Vigil for Human Life - Tuesday, March 23, from 9 AM to 4 PM, the people of our parish are asked to witness for life outside Planned Parenthood on the corner of 3550 Main Street and Wason Avenue in Springfield or before the Blessed Sacrament here at St. Francis. Join us to pray for the mothers going into the abortion facility and those working in it. We will use the power of the Rosary to change hearts. Please sign-up to cover an hour, at either location, on the sheet in the gathering space. ☎ Rita Lee: 774-200-6464

Our Lenten Baby Shower is Underway - A basket is in the gathering space for much needed items such as: unscented baby wash and lotion, plastic baby bottles, unscented Dove soap and new outfits (sizes newborn-2T). The greatest need is for diapers, sizes 1-6. Gift cards and monetary donations are also welcome and may be given in an envelope marked *"Bethlehem House."*

Due to COVID restrictions, we will not be accepting used clothing and other used items at this time. Please save them for a later collection.

clearway CLINIC

Clarity and Support for Pregnant Women

Visit: https://clearwayclinic.com

Call: 413-351-0070 or Text: 774-314-8298

1259 E. Columbus Avenue, Springfield, MA 01105

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Parents Just Don't Understand - Anybody remember the old rap song by the Fresh Prince, aka Will Smith, "Parents Just Don't Understand?" As we grow up, it is sometimes a struggle for us to imagine that our parents understand us. It can seem impossible that Mom and Dad remember the stress of exam week or peer pressure. We never saw them as children; we never saw their disappointed faces when they weren't invited to a party, or their dashed hopes at a bad test grade. We never saw them homesick their first week of college or nervous to ask their crush to Homecoming.

We're often the same way about God. We gripe about what He asks of us. "He doesn't understand sin — he's all-good," we think. "He doesn't understand temptation — He is perfect."

In Scripture, God can be very much a father, telling us what we can and cannot do. And yet, in His divine genius, He is sometimes simply a man at a well, asking for a drink.

For me, it turns out I didn't need to tell my parents anything about what I was going through as a kid — they knew already. What I needed was for them to tell me what to do, and how to do it.

Similarly, we don't need to tell God about human nature. We need God to tell us about His nature. He's good enough to ask us for a drink, to enter into our humanity. But we have to remember, for our own sakes, to have the humility to ask Him for something, too — the water that will quench our eternal thirst.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS *©LPi*

SERVICE & OUTREACH

Opportunities to serve as the heart and hands of Christ

The Food Pantry is in need of:

canned tuna, canned chicken and shelf stable milk.

Thank you for your generous response to serving those in need.

☎ Food Pantry: 323-6272 x8

Please leave donations between the doors of the church.

Take & Eat provides nourishing meals and a short visit to elderly and homebound people in Belchertown on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. It is run entirely by volunteers and your generous donations.

If you would like to donate, please drop a check in the weekend collection with "Take & Eat" in the memo. Thank you!

☎ Jaime Forsythe: 896-0774 or ✉ jaimeforsythe32@gmail.com

☎ Ann Marie Beaupre: 687-7296 or ✉ beaupre6852@charter.net

The Prayer Shawl Ministry creates handmade shawls for bereaved or seriously ill individuals. Each shawl is lovingly made to provide comfort during a difficult time and serves as a reminder that the individual is not alone.

Do you know someone who would appreciate a reminder that they are not alone and who would like to be held up in prayer during a difficult time?

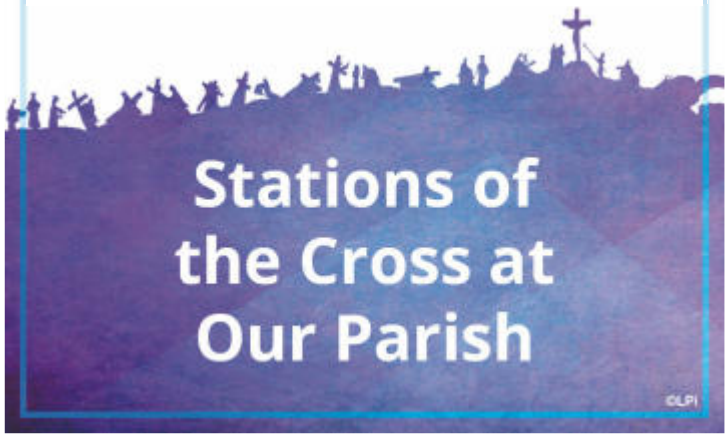
☎ Bonnie Miller: 253-2293 or Diane Plante: 237-3001

The Mats for the Homeless Ministry makes sleeping mats for the homeless in the diocese. Parishioners of almost any age can help in either making the 'plarn' (plastic yarn) out of plastic grocery bags or crocheting them together to make mats.

☎ Becky Walton: 345-1757

Please save your plastic bags for donation to this ministry.

Join us in the church at 6 PM on Wednesdays during Lent as we pray and make a spiritual pilgrimage meditating on the key points of Christ's Passion.



ACTION ALERT FROM THE USCCB

Take Action Now!

The Equality Act discriminates against people of faith and threatens unborn life. Tell your elected officials to oppose it!

Everyone deserves to be treated with respect and dignity. The Equality Act, which is being voted on in the U.S. House of Representatives soon, in many ways does the opposite and needs to be opposed. Instead of respecting differences in beliefs about marriage and sexuality, the Equality Act would discriminate against people of faith. The Equality Act would: punish faith-based organizations, such as charities and schools who serve everyone in their communities, simply because of their beliefs; force girls and women to compete against boys and men for limited opportunities in sports, and to share locker rooms and shower spaces with biological males who identify as women; risk mandating taxpayers to fund abortions; force people in everyday life, and especially health care workers, to support gender transition; and expand what the government considers a "pubic" place, forcing even some parish halls to host functions that conflict with Catholic beliefs.

UPDATE: The U.S. House of Representatives passed the Equality Act by a vote of 224-206, with three Republicans joining in with all House Democrats. The Act changes the definition of "sex" to include "pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition" and overrides religious freedom protections, forcing employers (including religious orders and schools) to pay for abortions through health insurance programs regardless of religious objections.

Medical staff who do not participate in elective abortions and health insurance plans that do not cover abortion will be forced to do so if they receive any reimbursement under Medicaid or Medicare.

And it negates the existing religious freedom law that allows believers to seek an exemption from such requirements based on sincere religious beliefs such as respect for human life.

The Senate now needs to pass it if it is to become law. The United States Catholic Bishops have sent a letter of objection.

To let your voice be heard, visit:
www.votervoice.net/USCCB/Campaigns/80967/Respond

Lenten Thought

Do you fast? Give me proof of it by your works. If you see a poor man, take pity on him. If you see a friend being honored, do not envy him.

Do not let only your mouth fast, but also the eye and the ear and the feet and the hands, and all the members of your body.

Let the hands fast, by being free of avarice.

Let the feet fast, by ceasing to run after sin.

Let the eyes fast, by disciplining them not to glare at that which is sinful.

Let the ear fast, by not listening to evil talk and gossip.

Let the mouth fast from foul words and unjust criticism.

Let the mind fast from evil and malicious thoughts.

For what good is it if we abstain from birds and fishes, but bite and devour our brothers?

And what good is it if to fast from food and drink and feast on sin?

~ A quote from St. John Chrysostom

SAFE WORSHIP GUIDELINES - PLEASE BE OBSERVANT

The celebration of Mass is the center of our Catholic faith and as such we recognize the hardship of those who are not yet able to join us. Please note that while the Bishop's dispensation from the obligation of in-person, weekend Mass attendance remains in place, there are many churches streaming the Mass online so that you can attend remotely *(see links below).* We pray for God to give us consolation in these trying times. May our hunger for Him increase.

If you are joining us for Mass, please keep your masks on and maintain a 6-foot distance while in the church.
You are also encouraged to refrain from singing.
Together, we can continue to keep our church open for worship.

Please be extra vigilant and stay at home if you feel sick.

Masks - must be worn at all times, upon leaving your car, during Mass and until returning to your car. Father, cantors and readers wear masks except when performing their role in the sanctuary, where they are 6 feet away from anyone.

6-Foot Social Distancing - every other pew has been roped off. People who do not live as families are asked to sit separately. Attendance is still low, so there are many open seats between worshipers. Ushers are present to assist people.

The church doors will be open before and after Mass to eliminate the need to touch door handles.

Offertory Baskets - are on tables as you enter the worship space.

Communion - Father and Eucharistic ministers sanitize their hands before and after distributing the Eucharist. The Host is placed in the receiver's hand without touching, while the 6-foot distance is maintained by those coming forward to receive. Fr. David continues to bring the Eucharist out to parishioners in their seats as needed.

Hand Sanitizer - we encourage everyone to bring their own, but dispensers are located around the church for everyone's use.

Bulletins - distributed by ushers wearing gloves following Mass.

Following every Mass, the church is cleaned and sanitized by many generous volunteers and the maintenance staff.

Join us Remotely - We continue to record and upload the weekend Mass to our Website at: *www.stfrancisbelchertown.com,* our Facebook page and to YouTube.
It also airs on BCTV 191 on Sundays at 4:30 PM.

Five Star Gardens
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www.beersandstory.com

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Katarzyna Babinski, O.D.
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The Grapevine Grille
413-323-4117
62 Turkey Hill Rd, Belchertown
Open 7 Days a Week 11am-11pm
Fresh Italian & Mediterranean Style Food
American Favorites

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Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust
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