

March 12, 2017

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 13901



Evelina, like generations of Zambians before her, used to survive on meals made from corn flour, usually a porridge called "nshima." "Growing up, I'd eat porridge in the morning, at lunchtime and again in the evening," she says. Unfortunately, nshima has very little nutritional value -- and relying too heavily on it as led to high rates of malnutrition. So, CRS is teaching women like Evelina how to prepare healthier meals and grow new, vitamin-rich crops like peanuts, pumpkins and sugar cane. What the women learn, they share with their community. Evelina is healthier, and so is her son, Steven. "He's full of energy," she says, with a smile.

Staff

Rev. Timothy Taugher, Pastor
Deacon Stephen Blabac
Sr. Karen Gaube, CSJ
Pastoral Associate
Delores A. Farwell
Parish Administrative Assistant
Maria Kirk
Director of Faith Formation
Joseph Carpenter
Parish Business Administrator
Sue Ekstrom
Parish Media Manager
Edmund Savo
Organist

Office Hours:

7:30 am to 4:30 pm
Monday through Thursday
Friday 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Parish Office: 722-4388

Fax: 722-1336

Faith Formation Office:
722-4177

E-mail:

stfrancisbing@syrdio.org

Website:

www.stfrancisbing.org

Mass Schedule

Monday-Thursday
8:00 am at the Parish Center
Chapel

Saturday Evening
4:00 pm

Sunday Morning
8:00 am & 11:00 am

Confession:
2nd & 4th Saturday of every
month at 3:00 pm at the
Church



Saturday, March 11, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. Lloyd Woodruff by Martha Goskowski

Sunday, March 12 Second Sunday Of Lent
 8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People
 11:00 a.m. Robert Quinn by Family

Monday, March 13
 8:00 a.m. Ruth Snyder by Barbara Townsend

Tuesday, March 14
 8:00 a.m. Jim Kalivoda by Lucille Marsili & the Bible Babes

Wednesday, March 15
 8:00 a.m. Jean Wells by the Blabac Family

Thursday, March 16
 8:00 a.m. Maria & Angelo Lalley & Family by Family

Friday, March 17
NO MASS

Saturday, March 18, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00p.m. Kenneth Munney by Jean & Horace Julian

Sunday, March 19, Third Sunday Of Lent
 8:00 a. m. Edward Lawrence by Helen & Jack Lawrence
 11:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People

Catherine's Cupboard

Our parish pantry is open to anyone in need of food. We are open on the **1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.** No requirements except to show ID showing who you are. A person can come as often as needed. We are here to help, not to judge. So please pass the word to anyone you think may need assistance. Canned or dry goods, plus paper & personal care products (**toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, soap, baby diapers, women's personal items**) are always needed and welcome. Drop off in the barrel at the church foyer or leave the items in the Parish Center.

Prayers . . .

Please remember all of our parishioners who are in hospitals and nursing homes and our home-bound. Also, please pray for our deceased parishioners and loved ones, especially Mary Stone.

Weekend's Offering (03-05-17)

Regular Envelopes.....\$6,464.78
 Loose Collection.....\$331.79
 Electronic Donation.....\$1,320.00
 Total Collection.....\$8,116.57
 More Catherine's Cupboard Donations \$935, Thank You!

**Thank you to everyone for their donations.
 They are greatly appreciated!**

Faith Formation

**Faith Formation meets today at 9:30a.m.
 for Grades K-9.**

St. Francis of Assisi Winter Carnival and Planting for the Co-Garden ~ Sunday March 19, during faith formation in the Parish Hall Faith Formation would like to help the Confirmation Class with their Collection for Homeless. Also we need to start seedlings for the Co-Garden, The Children's Home will be helping us by growing these in their greenhouse. Students in K-9th grades are encouraged to bring a needed item from The Collection for Homeless Drive or Monetary Donation like the following: Gift Card to McDonalds or Burger King, crackers, Gatorade, Cliff bars, small packages of raisins, or bottles of water, hand wipes like Wet Ones, Men's thermal socks. All are welcome to attend young, mature, and fun loving parish members!

Looking Ahead

Our First Eucharist Sharing Meal will be held on Sunday, March 26th after regular Faith Formation Classes. The children will make the pew banner for First Eucharist so please bring personal mementos for the banner. The Sharing Meal is meant for your family, grandparents and special people too. Please try to attend the 4 PM Mass on Saturday or at 8:00a.m. We will make our pew banners during 11:00a.m. Mass. Please give your head count to Maria Kirk by March 22.

Altar Servers, Lectors, and Eucharistic Ministers

Once again we will be preparing the next schedule. The deadline for requests is Monday, March 20th. If you would like to be added to the list or make any long-term changes, please call Lynda Carpenter at 722-6732 (cell is 206-2798) or email at joseph.carpenter28@gmail.com.

Thank You! From Catherine's Cupboard

Thank you all for the tremendous support to Catherine's Pantry this month. Since February 1st, **\$8,271** has been collected. Besides the many individuals who donated, we would also like to acknowledge the Boy Scouts Troop from SFA, Nimmonsburg Methodist Women's Group and Dance Connection (Big Gifted Give) for their contributions. On average, a month's supply of food and needs costs \$3,000, so this fundraiser is greatly appreciated. **THANK YOU AGAIN!**



IGNITE 2017 Catholic Men's Conference

Attention men of the parish, the theme for the 9th Annual IGNITE Men's Conference is It's All Possible with God. Almost 8,000 men have attended the previous conferences, and we are looking to make sure 2017 breaks the 9,000 mark! You can be part of it on Saturday, March 25, 2017 at the SRC Arena & Event Center for an amazing day that will have a tremendous impact on you. You can register for the IGNITE 2017 Catholic Men's Conference, online at www.ignitecatholicmen.org. Any questions please contact Tom Kane at 768-4943. Limited seating available.

Operation Rice Bowl: Encounter Nutrition

We encounter Evelina in Zambia as she and other mothers in her community learn new ways to provide nutritious meals for their growing children and families. How do we ensure that those who are hungry have not only food but true nourishment. Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

ETHNIC DINNER

Where: St. Cyril's Center, 148 Clinton St.
When: Sunday, March 26th. 11:30—2:30
Menu: Halupki, Pierogi, Kielbassa, Haluski and Homemade Dessert (Hotdogs for kids)
Price: Adults \$12.00; Children (5-12) \$4.00
Tickets: Available at door, takeout available

Nocturnal Adoration Society

There will be a Nocturnal Adoration Society meeting at St. Patrick's Chapel from 7:00-8:00p.m. on Saturday, March 18th. Adoration will only be **one hour** every one will attend the same hour.

Pocono Downs Bus Trip (Mohegan Sun)

Sponsor: St Joseph's Church
When: Tuesday, April 25th
Cost: \$35 (includes \$25 Free Play, \$5 Food)
Information: Call Grace 761-2357

RCIA Announcement

We are entering the final stage for the reception of our two Catechumens, Logan Blakeslee and Paul McDaniels into our Faith Community at the Easter Vigil on April 15th at 8 pm. Beginning this year, we will begin a year—round RCIA Process meaning that our Catechumens and Candidates will be spending a complete Liturgical Year with us in preparation for the Sacraments of Initiation. I invite anyone interested in joining our Faith Community to begin the Inquiry stage during this Lenten Season. That way you will be able to enter the Church at Easter 2018. Contact Deacon Steve at 648-2155 or contact the Parish Office.

Lenten Reflection

Why Sand? You may have been surprised when you dipped your fingers into the holy water fonts to feel sand instead of water! Why? The sand is both a symbol and reminder of the Lenten Season as well as recalling Jesus' 40 days in the barren wilderness. Lent is also a time to prepare ourselves to renew our baptismal promises at Easter. So feel free to touch the sand and let it remind you to prepare for the renewal of the water of baptism in your life!

A Gospel Call: Becoming a Sanctuary People in Today's World. I'm not sure if you caught the graphic that was illustrated in our local PressConnects on February 28th. When I opened to the viewpoint section the graphic caught my attention and since seeing it, it has been a powerful reminder to me what is being lost in our current debate about immigration. The illustration portrayed a heavily equipped Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agent with his hands strong arming a handcuffed man who is somewhat hunched over. Over the graphic in quotes it read: "Thirty-three year old male, brown skin, doesn't speak English, working as a carpenter...yes, we'll lock him up, Mr. President." Yes, the one in handcuffs is a person looking like Jesus. The graphic reminded me of two scripture quotes among so many in the scriptures. One from Leviticus 19:34, "The stranger who resides with you shall be to you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt; I am the Lord your God." The other is from Matthew 25:35, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me." At our Pastoral Council meeting this past Monday, we had a lengthy and informative discussion in how we as the faith community of St. Francis of Assisi can answer the gospel call in becoming a sanctuary people in the world and in our country today. From the earliest days of our faith tradition, believers have been taught to reach out and provide care for these groups of people who were recognized as being in particular need: the widow, the orphan, and the stranger in our midst. This thread is woven through the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures, with Jesus himself among the strangers in our midst. It was decided among the Pastoral Council to do more teaching by putting information in the bulletin and possibly inviting a speaker to come and speak in our parish on the area of immigration and sanctuary. The challenge is before us today to answer the gospel call in becoming a sanctuary church. During these Lenten days I invite you to make the prayer below a daily prayer to guide us as a people of faith.

God of Yesterday and Today,

Women and men of generations past have suffered unthinkable acts of violence and discrimination. Time and time again, we shout the words, "Never again!" Never again will we become a people of indifference! Today, we recommit to transforming the words "Never again!" Into genuine action by being sanctuary people. We turn to you, God, to be our guide, as we become your voice in today's world. Be our hands as we welcome the stranger in our lands. Be our eyes as we remove the blindfolds that shade our vision From seeing you in the refugee, the immigrant, and the orphaned. Be our feet as we walk, side by side, with the tired and weary who journey treacherous roads in search of shelter. Be our tears as we anoint the widow and the orphan with tender care. And, as a people of faith, we join the generations of yesterday, today, and tomorrow and proclaim with one voice: "Injustice, exclusion, bigotry, never again! Not in this time!" Amen.

--Dianna Ortiz, O.S.U

Catherine's Cupboard Volunteer Schedule Transportation

Week of March 12th — George & Pat Clark
Week of March 19th — Karen Dotson

Shelving (Mondays)

March 13th — P. Turnbull & A. Hanley
March 20th — E. & K. Corcoran

Distribution

March 21st — C. Danoski, L. Gildea, B. Grace, M. Ryder, C. Woodruff, R. Rounds

Fish Dinners

To support the Outreach Ministry of the Southern Tier (Mobile Van offering soup, hot chocolate, as well as socks, hats and gloves – Mobile Showers for the Homeless and those in need - in late spring) - to be held on the Fridays of Lent – March 3 – April 7 from 4:00 – 6:30 pm at St. Patrick's Church Hall, corner of Leroy and Oak St, Binghamton. Cost: Adults – \$8.00 – Children - \$5.00 (includes fish, cole slaw, macaroni and cheese, dessert, drink). (Pirogi's available – add \$1.00 each; Clam Chowder available - \$2.00 cup). Take outs available. Call in advance to help us plan for this event – 607 – 723-3239. Volunteers are needed and your assistance will be of great value. You could do 1 or as many Fridays you wish." Call Mary Giblin at 723-9208.

Confirmation Collection for Homeless

The Confirmation Class is collecting items for Binghamton Homeless Coalition kits until April 2.

These are the needed items:

Bottles of Water or Gatorade, Insulated Socks, Thermal Underwear (L/XL), Warm Gloves, Warm Hats, Hand/Foot Warmers, Ponchos, Toothbrushes, Wipes, Bus Passes, Fast Food Gift Cards, Clif Bars, Cracker Sandwiches, Oranges, Ziploc Bags. All clothing must be men's sizes, since women can wear them, too, and must be new.

We have a box just inside the front door of the school on Sundays during Faith Formation. There is also a box at the church and another at the Parish Center. THANK YOU to all the parishioners who have been contributing items and cash to our collection! We greatly appreciate your generosity!

DeBella College Scholarship

Each year the DeBella College Scholarship Committee awards \$500 scholarships to 4 seniors from our parish who plan to attend college in the fall. Applications for these scholarships are available on the tables in back of the church, or on the parish Website. Applications are due by **noon**, on **Friday, April 28th**. To be eligible for a scholarship, applicants must be a registered member of the parish.

Volunteers Needed for Parish Transportation Committee

Our Parish Transportation Committee is in need of more volunteers to drive parishioners to doctor appointments, for groceries, to the bank, etc. during the week. This committee has provided services to our parishioners since 1996, and we do hope it can continue. For more information, please call the Parish Center at 722-4388, Marge Mangan at 723-4044, or George Clark at 648-3385.

St. Patrick's Day Celebration at St. Patrick's

The Annual Mass in Honor of St. Patrick will be held Friday, March 17th, at 3:00p.m. at St. Patrick's Church, 9 Leroy St., Binghamton. An Irish party from 4:00-8:00p.m. will be held in St. Patrick's Gym following Mass. Cost of the party is: Adults \$3.00 and includes admission, entertainment and soda; Under 18-\$1.00; Children under 5-free. Food will be available at a nominal cost. A Ham and Cabbage Dinner will also be available at a cost of \$6.00. Tickets are available at the door.

Bach Birthday Bash

Sunday March 19 at 7:00 PM some thirty-five musicians will team up to perform some of J. S. Bach's greatest music. Three solos on the church's Casavant pipe organ will be performed by guest organist **Gregory Santa Croce** (one of St. Francis' young parishioners). The concert is free and open to the public; a free-will offering will be collected. The church is wheelchair accessible. Trinity Memorial Episcopal Church is located at 44 Main Street, across from Binghamton High School.

Mom's House Rocker-thon

Mom's House Rocker-thon will be held at the end of March. Volunteers will be collecting money for this wonderful non-profit agency on March 18th and March 19th at all masses. Mom's House is a non-profit agency that assists low income single parents with free child care allowing them to finish school.

An Irish Prayer:

May God give you, For every storm, A rainbow,
For every tear, A smile,
For every care, A promise,
And a blessing in each trial.

For every problem life sends, A faithful friend to share,
For every sigh, A sweet song,
And an answer for each prayer.



**St. Francis of Assisi Lectors,
Eucharistic Ministers & Altar Servers**

March 18th & 19th, 2017

4:00 P.M. Mass

Lector	Sally Orband
EM Host	Bob Grace
EM Host	Ron Scales
EM Host	Paulette Scales
EM Cup	Bea Grace
EM Cup	Kelly Benjamin
EM Cup	Terry Hanifin
EM Cup	Mary Lou Ekstrom
Altar Server	Dominic Lomonaco
Altar Server	Sarah Shafer
Altar Server	Logan Lomonaco

8:00 A.M. Mass

Lector	Scott Iglar
EM Host	Suzanne Tierno
EM Host	Debbie Davis
EM Host	K. or K. Mohney
EM Cup	Maureen Mizzoni
EM Cup	Ed White
EM Cup	Tom Phalen
EM Cup	Sr. Karen Gaube
Altar Server	James Bush
Altar Server	Sarah Bush
Altar Server	Mary Bush

11:00 A.M. Mass

Lector	John Klepfer
EM Host	Lindsey Church
EM Host	Steve Church
EM Host	Katie Ginalski
EM Cup	Pat Clark
EM Cup	Jules Furrer
EM Cup	Dave Bollinger
EM Cup	Steve Guth
Altar Server	Nolan Sirgany
Altar Server	Katelyn Church
Altar Server	Quinn Sirgany

Question of the Week

Question for Children: Share about a time when you felt especially close to God or Jesus.

Question for Youth: Have you ever had a “mountain top” experience where you felt exceptionally close to God? How was your life changed by that experience?

Question for Adults: Perhaps this reading calls us, not to cling to the familiar, but to leave the comforts of the parish and reach out to the world around us. In your neighborhood or community, who is waiting to hear the Good News?

END OF BULLETIN

CHURCH NAME: St. Francis of Assisi
CITY, STATE: Binghamton, NY
FILE NAME: 06-168
PHONE: 607-722-4388
Contact: Delores A. Farwell or Sue Ekstrom

Comments:
Bulletin copy for **March 12th, 2016**

Deliver 600 copies to St. Francis of Assisi.