

March 20, 2016

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 13901

PALM SUNDAY

*praise God aloud
with joy*





Saturday, March 19, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. Joseph & Rita Brozovic by Don & Barb Brozovic

Sunday, March 20, Palm Sunday of The Passion of The Lord
 8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People
 11:00 a.m. John Turnbull by Patty Turnbull and Children

Monday, March 21
 8:00 a.m. Dc. Ray Goskowski by Patricia Dailey

Tuesday, March 22
 8:00 a.m. Eleanor Gunter by Mary Ellen Meskell

Wednesday, March 23
 8:00 a.m. David Cermak by Cecilia Cermak

Thursday, March 24, Holy Thursday
 7:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper

Friday, March 25, Good Friday
 3:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

Saturday, March 26, Holy Saturday
 8:00 p.m. Liturgy for the People

Sunday, March 27, Easter Sunday
 8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People
 11:00 a.m. 17th Anniv. Helen Yanuzzi by Family

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 any time.

Children's Liturgy 
Dates **Presiders**
 Mar. 20th: Ed & Kay Corcoran
 Mar. 27th: Ede Blabac & Bridget Vavra

Visit our new website
www.stfrancisbing.org

Faith Formation

Faith Formation classes for grade K-9 will meet today at 9:30a.m. in the school.

Please Note: There will be **NO** Faith Formation next weekend. Happy Easter! Faith Formation will meet on April 3 for grades K-Confirmation. Members of the First Eucharist Classes and Confirmation Class are invited to bring up the gifts at Mass on Holy Thursday. Mass begins at 7 PM. Contact Maria Kirk if can participate. Please remember to call the Faith Formation Office at 722-4177 and leave a message when your child will not be at Faith Formation. You can also text Maria Kirk at 607-222-1477.

Looking Ahead:

Sunday April 3 Rice Bowl Prayer Service at 10a.m. in the Church for grades K-9. Please bring in your Rice Bowl donations at that time. Please note the date correction.
 Sunday April 10th after Faith Formation classes the children preparing for First Eucharist will participate in their Sharing Meal. The children will make their Pew Banners at this time so remember to bring in personal mementos for this project.

Reboot!

The southern region of the Diocese has secured a world-class event! **REBOOT! LIVE!** on Thursday, April 14, 7--9:30p.m. at Our Lady of Sorrows in Vestal. This event will feature Chris Stefanick an internationally acclaimed speaker and author. The evening will center around a practical exploration and understanding of the Catholic Faith, and all the ways it's meant to impact our lives, including: prayer, and spirituality, work, dating, marriage, parenting, health and more!

This 2 1/2 hour renewal event is designed to bring a brand new energy and vitality to your faith journey. It will have

- An inspirational, high-energy unpacking of the genius of the heart of the Gospel, revealing its power and real beauty. The experience is fresh and compelling, and is like hearing the Gospel for the first time all over again!
- It finishes strong with real-life, practical, "can-do" ways of applying the genius of the Gospel in everyday life. There is no part of a person's life that will be left untouched!

Doors will be opened by 6p.m.. Tickets are available at the parish center or at Faith Formation for \$10 each. (Parish will pay a portion of the ticket price)

Works of Mercy

"The burial of the dead is a corporal work of mercy; it honors the children of God, who are temples of the Holy Spirit." Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2300

This week's **Corporal Work of Mercy is Bury the Dead**. In Heidi Schlumpf's article, "The Ministry of Burying The Dead" she says, "Catholics of all ages—especially social-justice-minded ones—should remember that burying the dead is just as important as feeding the hungry and sheltering the homeless. Being part of a proper burial not only maintains the deceased person's human dignity and is a service to the survivors, it also benefits the church and broader culture by offering ritual and meaning when people need it most. The admonition to bury the dead comes from the Old Testament Book of Tobit, whose namesake is exiled for his righteous work of burying the dead, especially criminals. Like Tobit, we should help bury not only our own deceased friends and family members, but others as well." Usually, the only funerals we go to are those of family and friends, our loved ones. Yet we're called to broaden our love to the outcast and invisible. How can I extend my mercy to those who'll likely die and "invisible" death?

Work of Mercy

God of the Living and the Dead, you give dignity to every person. Since we are a part of your family, help us to extend dignity to the members of your family who may die alone. Amen.

“Pray without ceasing.”- 1 Thessalonians 5:17

This week’s **Spiritual Work of Mercy is Pray for the Living and the Dead.** Pope Francis says,

“One form of prayer moves us particularly to take up the task of evangelization and to seek the good of others: it is the prayer of intercession. The great men and women of God were great intercessors. Intercession is like a ‘heaven’ in the heart of the Trinity. It is a way of penetrating the Father’s heart and discovering new dimensions which can shed light on concrete situations and change them. We can say that God’s heart is touched by our intercession, yet in reality he is always there first. What our intercession achieves is that his power, his love and his faithfulness are shown ever more clearly in the midst of the people.”

Part of being “women and men for others” is praying for them. This is a merciful act. For most cloistered monks and nuns this is their primary ministry. How can I make prayer for others and intentional part of my prayer routine?

God of the Living and the Dead, you know our prayer before it’s uttered. Still, our prayer for one another connects us in one big act of love and mercy. As Jesus prayed for his disciples, help us care for others by lifting them to you in prayers. Amen

Birthright Organization

Birthright is a volunteer organization dedicated to the mission that it is the right of every pregnant woman to give birth and the right of every child to be born. For more information, call Diane at 724-3186.

Items most needed:

- Receiving blankets, crib blankets, baby afghans
- Onesies
 - Sizes: 0-3 and 3-6 months
- Stretch suits / sleepers / kimonos
 - Sizes: 0-3 and 3-6 months
- Newborn sweater sets
- Maternity jeans or casual maternity pants
 - Sizes: Large and XL
- Casual maternity tops
 - Sizes: Large and XL
- Diapers
 - Sizes: 1 and 2

This will take place the entire month of March.
Birthright is most grateful for any and all donations.

Hungering to Build Community

We follow Jesus this week on our Lenten journey as he enters Jerusalem, a community he knew well. CRS Rice Bowl asks us to prayerfully enter into our own communities, to find those who need our help. How does our Lenten journey motivate us to serve those we encounter in our daily lives? Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

Easter Saints & Endless Mercies: Art and Stories

Join Bro. Mickey as he shares his paintings and the stories behind them in a delightful celebration of Easter season joy. Re-discover familiar saints and heroes from Gospel days to Pope Francis. Attend on Friday, April 15th, 6:30-9:00p.m. for \$5.00 (Refreshments included) or on Saturday, April 16th, 10:00a.m.--2:00p.m. for \$15 (Lunch included). It takes place at the Bishop Harrison Center in Syracuse. Contact Catherine Cornue at ccornue@syrdio.org to register and for more information.

Funeral Luncheons

Now that our Church Hall is available again during the week, we would like to resume our ministry of offering a luncheon to families following the funerals of their loved ones here at St. Francis of Assisi. This is a beautiful Spiritual and Corporal Work of Mercy, for which we need the generous help of our parish family in providing it. There will be a meeting for anyone interested in being part of the Funeral Luncheon Committee on Wednesday, April 6th at 10:00a.m. in the Parish Center.

DeBella Scholarship

St. Francis of Assisi Finance Committee, in conjunction with the DeBella Oversight Committee, has set aside a sum of money to establish the John M. DeBella College Scholarships. Four \$500 scholarships will be awarded to four seniors from the parish who plan to attend college in the fall. Applications for these scholarships are available on the tables at the rear of the church. The application is also available on the website. Applications are due by noon on Friday, April 29th. In order to be eligible for a scholarship, applicants must be a **registered** member of the parish.

There is a Humanitarian Crisis!

Help feed starving refugees fleeing violence. The Children of Abraham of the Southern Tier (COA) is sponsoring an interfaith event to help feed refugees living in camps in Jordan and Greece. They are working with Kids Against Hunger. It is a national organization whose mission includes feeding starving children and their families throughout the world. Millions of refugees are escaping conflicts in Syria, Iraq, and other countries in the Middle East. Many are living in huge refugee camps, and there is not enough food reaching them to meet their basic nutritional needs.

1. Help raise money! \$1.00 can provide 4 meals; \$10, 40 meals; \$25, 100 meals. If you wish to make a donation make a check out to the Children of Abraham or put cash in an envelope marked as such. As a parish we will be making a contribution for this endeavor.
2. Help package meals! Kids Against Hunger will set up meal packing stations for us to pack meals assembly line style on April 3 from 1:30-3:30 at St. Michael’s on Clinton Street. If you are interested in assisting please call the parish office (722-4388) — it would be wonderful to have a group represent the parish. Do so as a family or with friends.

The goal is 20,000 meals and thus \$5,000. This could be met with your help.

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.

Catherine's Cupboard Volunteer Schedule

Transportation

Week of March 20th — Michelle Warne

Week of March 27th — **Easter**

Shelving (Mondays)

Mar. 21st — C. & F. Woodruff & M. Ryder

Mar. 28th — C. & B. Danoski

Distribution

March 15th — Kellet Team #2

April 5th — R. & P. Scales, R. O'Neil, K. Dotson, M. Hayes, R. Serafini

Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs Bus Trip

There will be a bus trip to the Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs Casino in Wilkes-Barre, PA for Parishioners who are interested in going. It will take place on Wednesday, April 13th and costs \$30-\$25 free play, and \$5 for food. Boarding is at 8:30a.m. at St. Joseph's Church. If you are interested in taking part in this trip, call Grace at 607-754-1241

Last Weekend's Offering (03-13-16)

198 Regular Envelopes.....\$5,843.75
 Loose Collection.....\$3344.77
 Electronic Donation.....\$964.39
 Total Collection.....\$7,142.91

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

Chenango Valley Booster Club Fundraiser

The Chenango Valley Athletic Club is having a fundraiser that uses something that we all have an abundance of... SHOES!

CVAC is partnering up with Funds2Orgs, an organization that will collect our gently used shoes, boots, sneakers, flip-flops, cleats, or any kind of footwear and pay us for them.

Collection barrels are available at all Chenango Valley schools until April 19th. The shoes will be collected and used for an enterprise program in underdeveloped countries. The goal is 5,000 pairs of shoes and therefore about \$2,000. The money collected will benefit the CV Athletic Club and the kids.

Thank You From Mom's House

We thank the Parishioners of St. Francis for your generosity to the Rocker-Thon. Over \$800 was raised! Great job and thank you all again.

Ladies of Charity Scholarship

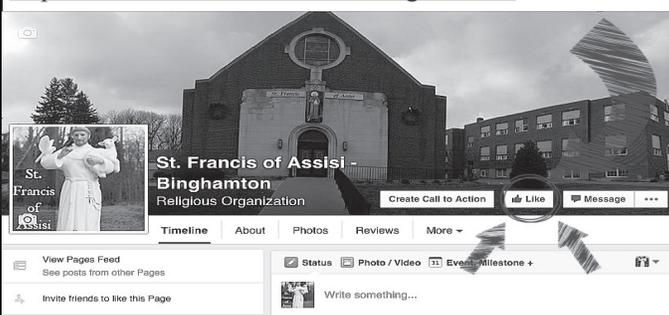
The Ladies of Charity will award three \$500 scholarships to high school seniors who plan to pursue a service oriented career which specifically makes a difference in someone's life. The scholarship is based on academic achievement, financial need, and service to school, church and community. Please see your school guidance counselor for an application. Deadline is on April 29, 2016.

Annual Samaritan House Spring Sale

Saturday, April 2, 9:00a.m.—4:00p.m. & Sunday, April 3, 9:00a.m.—2:00p.m. St. Thomas Aquinas School Gym Highland Avenue, Binghamton. If you have any questions contact Dennis Gorman at 607-724-3969.

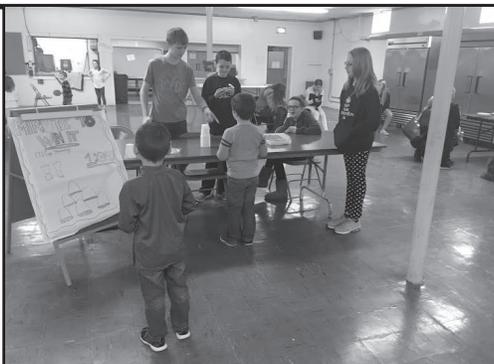
Like us on Facebook!

If you have not already, take this opportunity to "like" us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/sfbinghamton/>



Winter Carnival

Thank You for all who came and donated at our Winter Carnival last Sunday. We helped raise \$238.28 for the Volunteers of America as well as 3 large boxes of donated toiletries to help the homeless.



Holy Week Schedule

3/24 Holy Thursday

7:00p.m. Mass of the Lord's supper

Celebrate the institution of the Eucharist and call to service. The foot washing is a strong symbol of our call to service of God's people

3/25 Good Friday

3:00p.m. Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

The celebration of the Lord's Passion and death with the veneration of the cross and Holy Communion.

3/26 Holy Saturday

12:00p.m. at the Parish Center Chapel- Blessing of food and baskets

3/26 Easter Vigil

8:00p.m. Liturgy

The Easter Vigil is the heart of our Liturgy of Lent and Easter time. We celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist to live our lives as Easter people

3/27 Easter Sunday

**8:00a.m. Mass
 11:00a.m. Mass**

Sponsor of the Week

This week, St. Francis of Assisi would like to thank:

Wilson Dental

289 Chenango Street, Binghamton, NY 13901
 for sponsoring an ad in our bulletin

**St. Francis of Assisi Lectors,
Eucharistic Ministers & Altar Servers**
March 26th & 27th, 2016

**LECTORS,
EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS
& ALTAR SERVERS
PLEASE SIGN UP
ON THE EASTER
SIGN UP SHEETS**

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Question of the Week

Question for Children: Name one thing that you will do each day this week to remind you that Jesus died and rose to new life for you.

Question for Youth: We hear the story of Jesus' death each year. What did you hear differently this year? How has your faith changed in the past year?

Question for Adults: Identify and share one way that you personally "die in Christ."

END OF BULLETIN

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Comments:

Bulletin copy for **March 20, 2016**

Deliver 600 copies to St. Francis of Assisi.