

November 27, 2016

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 13901





Saturday, November 26, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00p.m. 50th Wedding Anniv. Judy & Gordon Ruston

Sunday, November 27, First Sunday of Advent
 8:00a.m. 18th Anniv. Ryan Carr by Family
 11:00a.m. 9th Anniv. Ed. Farthing by Family

Monday, November 28
 8:00 a.m. Lorenzo Altadonna by Family

Tuesday, November 29
 8:00 a.m. Craig Lawrence by St. Francis Special Sunshine Committee

Wednesday, November 30
 8:00a.m. Tom Mangan by Wife, Marge & Family

Thursday, December 1
 8:00a.m. Mannino Vita by Daugher Fina & Family

Friday, December 2
NO MASS

Saturday, December 3, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. Deceased members of the Totman & Truchan Families by Family

Sunday, December 4, Second Sunday of Advent
 8:00a.m. Ruth & John Bernard by Doug & Tina Bernard
 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 any time.

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.

Last Weekend's Offering (11-20-16)

196 Regular Envelopes.....	\$7,391.00
Loose Collection.....	\$205.65
Electronic Donation.....	\$715.00
Total Collection.....	\$8,311.65

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

Faith Formation

No Faith Formation this weekend, November 27th. Happy Thanksgiving!!

On December 4th our 2017 Confirmation Candidates will participate in the Rite of Acceptance at he 11 AM Mass. Mass may be a bit longer and the second and third pew on the parking lots side will be reserved, please plan accordingly.

Looking Ahead

- ♦ Our annual Faith Formation Christmas Program will be Sunday December 18th at 9:45 AM In the Church. It will be followed by a Christmas Party in the Parish Hall following the performance. Everyone is invited to watch our Christmas Program in the Church.
- ♦ Faith Formation at all grade levels will participate in Safe Environment Lessons on December 4th. These diocesan mandated classes are provided each year to keep our children alerted to the dangers that surround them. As parents, you are encouraged to review the materials online, or you can review hard copies in the FF office in the school. If you decide not to have your child participate, you must sign them out of this class. Details have been mailed to you. If you do not have them, please contact Maria Kirk for a copy of the letter.

Confirmation Class Collection for Homeless

NEEDED: Items for Homeless Coalition Kits
 The Confirmation Class will be collecting items for kits for the homeless in Binghamton between now and April. The coalition is a group of the various organizations that aid the homeless and work to re-establish them as contributing members of our community. Part of the process is to provide kits with the following specific, new items. They are currently running very low on these items and would appreciate anything we can provide. These are the needed items: Drawstring bags/backpacks, Bottles of Water or Gatorade, Insulated Socks, Thermal Underwear (L/XL), Warm Gloves, Warm Hats, Hand/Foot Warmers, Ponchos, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Wipes, Bus Pass, Fast Food Gift Card, Clif Bars, Cracker Sandwiches, Oranges, Ziploc Bags. All clothing should be men's sizes since women can wear them, too. Cash donations are also gratefully accepted. We will have a box in front of the school on Faith Formation weekends before/after each Mass. It will be at the Parish Center during the week. Flyers to put up in the community will also be available.

Advent Reflections

Santa Brings the Perfect Gift

The Christmas rush is upon us to buy, buy, buy and buy! In the Christmas rush, don't rush to buy the perfect war toy. In these shopping days before Christmas, take some time to think about the toys you are buying for the young people in your life.

We wish each other a "Merry Christmas"; we talk about peace on earth; we call Jesus the Prince of Peace, and yet we place toys of war under the tree and around the manger. So many of the video games depict violence and war so graphically that it borders on the obscene. As a people of faith, don't we find this a major disconnect from what the true meaning of Christmas is all about? Take seriously the words of the prophet of Advent, Isaiah, and turn our swords into plowshares, spears into pruning hooks, and train for war no more.

Instead of video games and toys that glamorize violence, give gifts of peace. Toys and games that encourage group play, cooperation and old-fashioned fun will offer hours of quality time. For something different and truly meaningful, take part of your allotment for each child and donate it to a worthy cause such as Pax Christi, or Bread for the World. Tell your child what you did and why. Other possibilities such as Heifer International, will send a card depicting the animal you choose to send to a family in a developing country or give to the Arbor Day Foundation and have a tree planted in someone's name.

Acting in this way, Christmas Day will become a true celebration of Christ, The Prince of Peace. Remember, don't buy any war toys. Choose toys of peace and give gifts from your heart. Never forget, the children are watching.

Fundraiser for Catherine's Cupboard

COUNTRY ADDITIONS gift shop, 1085 Chenango St, held a Holiday Open House on Nov. 12th, and a special fundraiser will continue to Dec. 23rd. for the pantry. There will be free gifts, also, so stop in for more details. We thank the owners, Cindy Fedish & Joan Wintergrass (members of our parish), for remembering our pantry again this year.

St. Francis of Assisi Homebound Outreach

Currently, our parish is ministering to 63 homebound parishioners and 31 nursing home parishioners. Are you aware of any other parishioners who are homebound or in a nursing home that we are not visiting? If so, please call Sister Karen at 722-4388 with their names, addresses and phone numbers, and we will be very glad to visit and bring Communion to them. Also, if you would like to be a part of this beautiful ministry to the sick and/or elderly, please let us know!

1st Sunday of Advent, November 27

"It is the hour now for you to awake from sleep. For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed."

--Romans 13:11



Advent thought for today:

This week be watchful for evidence of God around you and for the action of God inside you.

Attention: Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers

Once again we are preparing the next schedule. The deadline for requests is **Monday, Dec. 12th**. If you would like to be **added to the list or make any long term changes**, please call Linda Carpenter at 772-6732, (cell: 206-2798) or e-mail at joseph.carpenter28@gmail.com.

Pilgrimage to Italy

11 Days: November 6—16, 2017

Hosted by Deacon Ed & Rose Blaine

\$2929 per person from New York

(Air/land tour price is \$2299 plus \$630 government taxes/airline surcharges)

Tour price includes: Roundtrip air from New York, first-class/select hotels, most meals, comprehensive sightseeing and much more!!

Visit Venice, Padua, Florence, Assisi and Rome with Vatican City and a **Papal Audience!!**

For a brochure and more information contact Deacon & Mrs. Blaine at (607) 754-0289 or dcedb@aol.com

#GivingTuesday

Giving Tuesday is a global day of generosity and charity celebrated the Tuesday after Thanksgiving each year. Instead of focusing on buying more things on days like Black Friday and Cyber Monday, Giving Tuesday is about inspiring a spirit of generosity and passing it on to friends and family.

Pick a charity that means a lot to you and support them by donating money or lending a helping hand with that charity on Tuesday, November 28th.

Catherine's Cupboard Volunteer Schedule

Transportation

Week of November 27th — Michelle Warne

Week of December 4th — Anne Wilcox

Shelving (Mondays)

November 28th — C. & B. Danoski

December 5th — J. & K. Brady

Distribution

December 6th — A. & S. Faughnan, J. Wyatt, M. Quinn, R. & P. Scales

SUPER 50-50 TICKET COUNTER

Super 50-50 drawing is on December 4th

Currently sold: 210 tickets

Must sell: 190 more

If you did not receive any, there are extras at entrances of the church. Remember you can not WIN if you do not buy! Thank you to McCormack Funeral Home for the printing of our tickets.

Preparing for Christ

“The Son of Man is coming at the time you least expect (MT 24:44).” That is a frightening prospect.

- ♦ What if Jesus comes when there are still nearly two and a half million people living in countries where the annual per capita income is \$400 or less?
- ♦ When there are still about 40,000 people dying every day from hunger?
- ♦ When one billion people, one fifth of the human race, still do not have decent housing?
- ♦ When there are still 20 million Latin American children sleeping in the street?
- ♦ When there are still hundreds of millions of people without basic medical care?
- ♦ When one out of every four human beings still has no access to safe drinking water?
- ♦ When we are still burning down rain forests, depleting the ozone layer that protects us from the sun, depositing black crude oil along the delicate shoreline of the world, sending noxious gasses into the atmosphere so they return to earth as acid rain and pollute lakes and streams, playing games with radioactive materials that will be around to torture us for centuries?

“It is now the hour for us to wake from sleep (Rom 13:11).” The challenge to “beat our swords into plowshares” (IS 2:4) has been around for centuries, as have other biblical challenges to “cast off deeds of darkness (Rom 13:12).” The season of Advent is a times for us to wake ourselves up and begin preparing better for the coming Christ.

Hope in the coming kingdom is already beginning to take root in the hearts of men. The radical transformation of the world in the paschal mystery of the Lord gives full meaning to the efforts of men, and in particular of the young, to lessen injustice, violence and hatred and to advance all together in justice, freedom, brotherhood and love.

-Synod of Bishops, Justice in the World, 1971: 76



The Giving Tree

The Giving Tree will be up the weekend of Nov 26th-27th. If you are away and want to donate a gift, here are some suggestions: Diapers for newborn up to 3, warm hats & gloves for men & women, Children's new story books, infant sleep sacks or onesies size nb -6 months; bus passes or postage stamps. **ALL GIFTS** must be returned no later than **DECEMBER 11TH**, wrapped and tag on the outside telling us what the item is. All tags on the tree have to be accounted for, but extra gifts (new stuffed animals or toys) are always accepted as well.

Knights of Columbus Breakfast with Santa

Knights of Columbus' "Breakfast with Santa" Buffet on **Sunday, December 4th from 8:30—11:00 a.m.** The winners of the Super 50/50 raffle will be drawn at the breakfast. All proceeds to benefit Catherine's Cupboard Food Pantry.

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

December 3rd & 4th, 2016

4:00 P.M. Mass

Lector	Joe Sardella
EM Host	Mary Cooney
EM Host	Kelly Benjamin
EM Host	Paulette Scales
EM Cup	Ron Scales
EM Cup	Mary Frances Charsky
EM Cup	Judy Murphy
EM Cup	Jan Pandich
Altar Server	Elizabeth Wrighter
Altar Server	Mikayla Bucci
Altar Server	Mikey Schultz

8:00 A.M. Mass

Lector	Tom Phalen
EM Host	Debbie Davis
EM Host	Sr. Karen Gaube
EM Host	Ede Blabac
EM Cup	Marie Iobst
EM Cup	Mary Ellen Vaverchak
EM Cup	Tim Vaverchak
EM Cup	Joanne Horoschak
Altar Server	Sarah Bush
Altar Server	Mary Bush
Altar Server	James Bush

11:00 A.M. Mass

Lector	Mary Jo Albee
EM Host	Stephanie Stracuzzi
EM Host	Jim Lewis
EM Host	Maria Lord
EM Cup	Rose O'Neil
EM Cup	David Bollinger
EM Cup	Katie Ginalski
EM Cup	Sue Jones
Altar Server	Zachary Carr
Altar Server	Quinn Sirgany
Altar Server	Anna Ginalski

Question of the Week

Question for Children: What special things do you do to get ready for a visitor at your house? What things can you do like that to get ready for Jesus?

Question for Youth: What is one thing that you can do this week to help you remember that Jesus is coming?

Question for Adults: When you're getting ready to receive a guest, what are some things you do? How do you apply this to receiving Christ?

END OF BULLETIN

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Comments:

Bulletin copy for **November 27th, 2016**

Deliver 600 copies to St. Francis of Assisi.