

January 04, 2026

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, NY 13901



St. Francis of Assisi Parish is a Eucharistic faith community committed to living and sharing the Gospel life.

Staff

Rev. Timothy Taugher, Pastor
Deacon Stephen Blabac
Delores A. Farwell
Parish Administrative Assistant
Maria Kirk
Director of Faith Formation
Joseph Carpenter
Parish Business Administrator
Suzanne Ekstrom
Parish Media Manager
Edmund Savo
Organist
Fred Hazlett
Maintenance/Groundskeeper
Tina Silvestri
Housekeeper
Sarah Bush/ Calliope Brennan /
Logan Kliment
Sacristans

Office Hours:

Monday — Thursday:
7:30 am to 4:30 pm
Friday: Closed

Confession:

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

Parish Office Phone: 722-4388

Faith Formation Office

Phone:
722-4177

E-mail:
stfrancisbing@syrдио.org

Website:
www.stfrancisbing.org

Please go online to
stfrancisbing.org to view
our latest Children's Liturgy.
We post new videos by
4:00PM on Saturdays.

Follow us on Facebook



@stfrancisbing

**Subscribe to our YouTube
Channel:**



**youtube.com/
@stfrancisbing**



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

Sunday, January 4, The Epiphany of the Lord
 10:30 a.m. Tim Giblin by Family

Monday, January 5
 12:00 p.m. Gene LaBare by John & Brenda Artman

Tuesday, January 6
 8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People

Wednesday, January 7
 12:00 p.m. Patrick Fitzgerald by the Bucci Family

Thursday, January 8
 8:00 a.m. Scott Pavlick by St. Francis Special Sunshine Committee

Friday, January 9
NO MASS

Saturday, January 10, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. Alan, Claudette, & Mark Simonis by Family

Sunday, January 11, The Baptism of the Lord
 10:30 a.m. Jules Furrer by the Knights of Columbus #11094

Catherine's Cupboard
 CATHERINE'S CUPBOARD has been serving our community for the past 20+ years, it's **open the 1st & 3rd Tuesday each month from 1PM—3PM and 5PM till 7PM (or until all are served).** We serve anyone who comes, asking only for ID, if they have any. As members of SOUTHERN TIER FOOD BANK, we purchase at wholesale (or less), providing **basic dry or canned goods, fresh fruit and vegetables, dairy, and frozen meats.** We try to provide **5 days of meals** and include **personal care items** also. We operate on **100% donations or grants.** Our location at the parish center means we have most overhead costs covered. However, we serve over 1500 people, requiring a budget of close to \$60,000 a year. PLEASE tell anyone you know who is feeling food insecure to stop in. **If you would like to donate food items, they can be left at parish center or food barrel in church foyer. Monetary donations can be mailed to our parish office or via the online giving tab at stfrancising.org**

Profit & Loss Weekly Summary (12-22-25)

Ordinary Contributions.....	\$5,624
Loose Cash.....	\$346
Repair & Maintenance.....	\$140
Catherine's Cupboard.....	\$2,382
Catholic Schools.....	\$5
Other.....	\$2,503
Capital Campaign.....	\$75
Total Contributions.....	\$11,075
Ordinary Expenses.....	\$8,795
Repair & Maintenance.....	\$767
Catherine's Cupboard.....	\$1,227
Capital Improvements.....	\$146
Total Expenses.....	\$10,935
TOTAL.....	\$140

Please help keep our Parish going!

Faith Formation
No Faith Formation for Grades K-8 January 4th Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Faith Formation resumes January 11th for Grades K-8.


January 4, 2026—Confirmation Retreat at the Newman Center parent drop off after 10:30AM Mass. Parent Pick up at 5:30PM at the Newman Center. Please refer to emails for details.

Looking Ahead:
 † First Eucharist Parent Meeting/Coaching Session **Tuesday January 13th 6:30PM** in the parish hall.

Binghamton Black Bears Hockey
Family Event
Saturday January 31st
7:00PM
Visions Veterans Memorial Arena
 RSVP by 1/11 to nicski13@outlook.com (Nick Norton)
 Payment due 1/18.
 Tickets are between \$13-\$15 per ticket depending on how many attended.
 Dinner to follow in parish hall following 4:00PM Mass before the game.

For Potential Godparents and Sponsors for Baptisms or Confirmation
 Anyone looking to be a Godparent or Sponsor to a Confirmation Candidate **MUST** be a registered member of St. Francis of Assisi to be able to get a letter of certification. This is the only way that the Church can verify you are a practicing Catholic. Please call Delores at the Parish Center (722-4388) for questions.

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.



Prayer for the Epiphany

*May we continue to search for the Light,
 The Bright Star which guides us
 To places we did not plan to go,
 To people we did not plan to encounter.
 We have been moving through darkness,
 Through pain and fear;
 Like the ancient Wise Ones
 We had hoped for an easier journey.
 But grace opens us in new ways:
 We are called to move beyond darkness,
 To a deeper sense of the possibilities
 Of the kingdom of God, of justice, of peace.
 May we become wise in our journeys,
 May we follow the traces of the Light,
 Glimpsed in the night, always returning,
 To recognize its brilliance in our encounters
 with the least of these,
 To see it illuminate the connecting web
 That binds us together on this fragile planet.
 We give thanks for this journey, for this new year,
 For the Love that moves
 us towards wisdom,
 For the Light that brings
 us healing and peace.
 Amen.*



Epiphany Sunday: Creation Care Tip

“Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.”

—Matthew 2:11

Having just come through another Christmas season of gift-giving, consider which gifts you gave or received were the most significant to you. Likely you most treasure those that won’t end up in a landfill sooner rather than later. As we move into a new year, consider vowing to give gifts this year that aren’t disposable in any way. How might you give gifts of time, talent, and “treasure” that won’t end up in the garbage?

Epiphany Sunday: Justice Challenge

This week we commemorate the Epiphany, the story of the wise men from the east paying homage and bringing gifts to the Infant Jesus. Their presence in the stable reveals that Jesus came for all people, not just the Jewish community. But the faith of the wise men was almost thwarted by Herod, who sought to destroy the baby he had heard was born. Your challenge this week is to reflect on how often you turn to violence—violent words, violent actions, violent feelings—when you feel threatened by someone. Make a personal commitment to respond to other people’s anger or hate or meanness with nonviolence. Pledge to make love the underlying motive and foundation on which you resolve your conflicts.

PLEASE TELL US THE NAMES & ADDRESSES OF SHUT-INS, WE WOULD LOVE TO REACH OUT!
 CALL DELORES AT THE PARISH CENTER
 (607)722-4388 TO LET US KNOW! THANK YOU!

Pope Leo Message: World Day of Peace 2026

In his Message for the 2026 World Day of Peace, Pope Leo XIV addresses the escalation of war, rearmament and fear in international relations, and reiterates the Church’s opposition to deterrence based on military force. He calls for disarmament, dialogue and the conversion of hearts as necessary conditions for a lasting and unarmed peace.

Fear as the currency of War

"It is no coincidence," the Pope continued, "that repeated calls to increase military spending, and the choices that follow, are presented by many government leaders as a justified response to external threats. The idea of the deterrent power of military might, especially nuclear deterrence, is based on the irrationality of relations between nations, built not on law, justice and trust, but on fear and domination by force." This approach, he said, does not bring security but entrenches instability and perpetuates anxiety.

When war becomes “normal”

Pope Leo XIV writes: “When peace is not a reality that is lived, cultivated and protected, then aggression spreads into domestic and public life.” He warns that this normalization of confrontation dominates global politics, undermining diplomacy and international law.

The unarmed path of the Gospel

The Pope reiterates that the Gospel links peace and non-violence. “The peace of the risen Jesus is unarmed,” he writes, “His was an unarmed struggle in the midst of concrete historical, political and social circumstances.” He recalls the challenge faced even by the disciples: “Put your sword back into its sheath.” Christians, he notes, are called to recognize past complicity in violence and commit to prophetic witness. In a world that equates strength with domination, goodness itself becomes “disarming.” Pope Leo XIV reflects: “Perhaps this is why God became a child,” pointing to the defenselessness of Bethlehem as a revelation of divine power.

Integral disarmament: beginning from within

The Pope insists that fear must be addressed at its root through the renewal of minds and hearts, replacing suspicion with trust. True peace, he writes, “cannot consist in the possession of an equal supply of armaments but only in mutual trust.” Religions, he adds, have a responsibility to avoid using faith to justify violence or war and instead to be “houses of peace,” where hostility is addressed through dialogue, justice and forgiveness.

A political and moral imperative

Pope Leo XIV calls for a renewed commitment to diplomacy, mediation and international law, lamenting the erosion of treaties and the weakening of supranational institutions. He highlights that peace is not a utopia but a choice - personal, communal and political.

Walking in the light

In the Jubilee of Hope, Pope Leo XIV invites humanity to begin a “disarmament of heart, mind and life,” trusting that God’s promises call for responsibility. Peace, he writes, “exists; it wants to dwell within us.” The task is not to create it, but to welcome it - and to allow it “to disarm us.”

Catherine's Cupboard Distribution Volunteer Schedule January 6th

1:00—3:00PM

5:00PM—Until Served

J. Daniels, K. Corcoran,
M. & D. Cole

K. Dotson, C. Danoski,
and M. & P. Peters



CATHERINE'S CUPBOARD

DONATION PAMPHLET

Please feel free to take a Catherine's Cupboard donation pamphlet in the back of the church or at the parish center. This pamphlet has some great information about our food pantry as well as many easy ways to contribute to the pantry. There are numerous ways YOU can help those in need right here in our community. The pantry relies on people like you to do your part! Take or request one to be sent to you!

TEAM TRIVIA

SATURDAY JANUARY 10TH
ST. THOMAS GYM
7:00PM—10:00PM
\$12/PERSON

INCLUDES BEER, WINE, SODA & SNACKS
PRIZES FOR THE TOP 3 TEAMS
TO REGISTER YOUR TEAM:
SUE MILLER 607-343-1040
MILLIE COUGHLIN 607-778-0102

Online Giving

Would you like to save paper and time when giving monetary donations to us? We have the option of online giving for your convenience. Visit our website stfrancisbing.org and click "online giving" in the menu. It's easy to set up using your checking account, credit, or debit card for automatic or one-time donation options and you choose where the money goes. The following accounts are available for donations:

*Ordinary Contribution, HOPE Appeal
Repair, Maintenance, & Utilities,
Catholic School Support, Catherine's Cupboard,
Special Sunshine, Capital Campaign, STAR Fund,
Sound System and Creation Care Team*

Check it out!

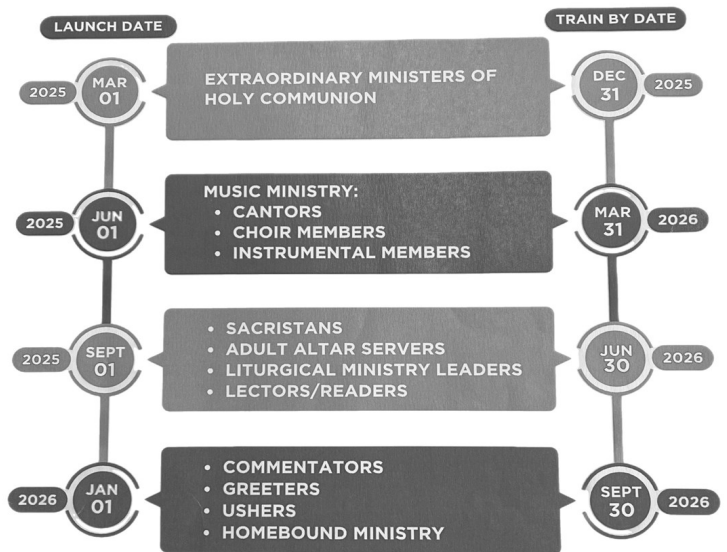
World Marriage Day Celebration

43rd Annual World Marriage Day will be celebrated on February 15th, 2:00pm, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Syracuse. Bishop Lucia will celebrate Mass and invite all couples in attendance to renew their commitment to Holy Matrimony. He will specially honor couples who will celebrate their 25th, 50th, and beyond 50 anniversary in 2026. If celebrating such an anniversary please contact the parish office to receive a special invitation from Bishop Lucia.

Catherine's Cupboard 2025

Our food pantry (Catherine's Cupboard) has wrapped up a challenging but successful year. We served just over 2,000 families (6,212 people) this year, the most we have ever done. All of this was possible due to everyone's help to meet the challenges of the times. You and the community donated time, effort, money, and food in order to help those in need. This December alone, Price Chopper, Church of Nazarene, Children's Home, and the Hillcrest Fire Dept/neighborhood and the many anonymous donors dropped off food, holiday special baking kits, and holiday gifts that were given out to many happy families. Their holidays have been brightened because of our pantry. **THANK YOU!** Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Safe Environment Training is Now Required



Become a Volunteer Driver with the Volunteer Transportation Service (VTS)!

Looking for a meaningful way to serve your neighbors? The Volunteer Transportation Service (VTS) is launching to help people in Broome, Chenango, Delaware, and Otsego Counties get to vital appointments-doctors, grocery stores, pharmacies, and more-when they have no other way to get there. You can help change that, one ride at a time! We're seeking compassionate drivers age 21+ with a clean driving record who are willing to use their own vehicle and give at least 4 flexible hours per week (you choose the days and times). A background check is required. Lend a hand and bring hope to someone who needs it most. To apply, visit jotform.com/vtc/VTS-New Volunteer Application or contact Jack Salo at 607-743-0120 or jsalo@rhnsnycny.org for more information.

Thank You From Birthright

Thank you Father Tim, and all of the St Francis parishioners for the amazing amount of diapers and baby clothes, toys blankets we received from your Giving Tree. Your generosity will help so many moms and babies! If you know of anyone who might want some help during a pregnancy or with their babies please let them know that we would love to help them. Sincerely, Diane Yajko and all the Birthright volunteers (607-798-7661)

**St. Francis of Assisi Lectors,
Eucharistic Ministers & Altar Servers**
January 10th & 11th, 2026

4:00 Mass	Altar Server	McKenzie Murphy
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Kylie Murphy
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	TBD
4:00 Mass	Lector	Mary Jane Paske
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Deacon Steve
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Larry Koch
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Peggy Munson
4:00 Mass	EM Cup	Mary Russik
4:00 Mass	EM Cup	Carol Danoski
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10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Juliana Rice
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Lucy Drake
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Clara Drake
10:30 Mass	Lector	Jo Ellen Rutherford
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Deacon Steve
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Ann Clune
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Jim Clune
10:30 Mass	EM Cup	Ede Blabac
10:30 Mass	EM Cup	David Hanzes

Children's Liturgy Schedule

January 4th— Ede Blabac & Melissa Weber

January 11th— Dorene Alecia & Amy Drake

January 18th— Ashley Cook & Maria Kirk (MLK)

January 25th— Ede & Sarah Blabac

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED!

Do you have a child or grandchild who has already received their First Eucharist? If so, they can be altar servers! **We are in desperate need of more altar servers** as we barely have enough to cover the masses alone week to week.

Why altar serve?

- 1.) It is a good way to get actively involved in the mechanics of mass. Some kids who find it hard to sit still may benefit from the activity that it provides.
- 2.) It allows for kids to be a closer part of the church community and make connections.
- 3.) Direct religious education learning opportunity
- 4.) Gives kids a sense of purpose and pride Church

Call the parish center (607)722-4388 or fill out a liturgical signup form (on table in the back of the church) and drop it in a collection basket.

Question of the Week

Question for Children: In your life, who helps you to see Jesus in other people such as a classmate or a friend?

Question for Youth: Life can sometimes be rough: losing your home, moving, feeling fear or danger. How do you experience God being and staying with you in such times?

Question for Adults: How this past week did you demonstrate God's love at home and at work?