

January 12, 2020

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 13901



The Baptism of the Lord

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
Agnes Miller
Housekeeping
Dominick Lomonaco
Nicholas Norton
Sacristans

Office Hours:

Monday — Thursday:

7:30 am to 4:30 pm

Friday: 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Parish Office Phone: 722-4388

Faith Formation Office Phone:
722-4177

E-mail:

stfrancisbing@syrdio.org

Website:

www.stfrancisbing.org

Follow us on FB & Twitter:

[@stfrancisbing](#)

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, January 11, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. 49th Anniv. Michael Pandich by Mike & Jan Pandich

Sunday, January 12, Baptism of the Lord
 8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People
 11:00 a.m. Armando & Felicia Palmieri by Family

Monday, January 13
 8:00 a.m. Stephen Kulas by Jim & Rose O'Neil

Tuesday, January 14
 8:00 a.m. Mary Ellen Yudin – Van Dyke by the Zurbluegg Family

Wednesday, January 15
NO MASS

Thursday, January 16
 8:00 a.m. Ethan Murphy by Arlene Peters

Friday, January 17
NO MASS

Saturday, January 18, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. Daniel Berry by Family

Sunday, January 19, Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
 8:00 a.m. Maureen Rhodes by Dave & Louise Martin
 11:00 a.m. Jessica Palmieri 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.

Weekend's Offering (1-05-20)

Regular Envelopes.....	\$5,846.00
Christmas.....	\$390.00
Holy Day.....	\$1,309.00
Loose Collection.....	\$329.00
Electronic Collection.....	\$1,417.00
Total Collection.....	\$9,291.00

Thank You for your generous contributions!

Faith Formation

Faith Formation for grades K-9 resumes this weekend at 9:30 AM in the church.

**No Faith Formation next weekend, January 19th--
 Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday**

Looking ahead....

First Eucharist Parent Meeting, January 26th after opening prayer in the Parish Hall. At least one parent is asked to attend. We will review the catechetical background of the sacrament as well as the local and diocesan requirements.

Book Club Begins on Tuesday, 1/14/2020

Book Club will resume on Tuesday, 1/14/2020 at 2:00 P.M. and 7:00 P.M., usual location in the Parish Center (dining room). We will be reading and studying Matthew Kelly's new book, Rediscovering the Saints (the Parish gift book from this recent Christmas). See you then!

St. Francis of Assisi Prayer Chain

Our Parish Prayer Chain welcomes requests for prayers for those who are ill or experiencing other important needs. If you have a prayer request or would like to become a part of the Prayer Chain to call one other person, please call Delores at the Parish Center (607-722-4388). She will provide you with more information about the Prayer Chain. Our grateful thanks to all who are a part of this special spiritual ministry in our parish.

Children's Liturgy

January 11/12
 4PM— Maria Kirk/Sue Lee
 8AM— Ede Blabac/Bridget Vavra

January 18/19
 4PM— Alison & Dan Brennan
 8AM— Ed & Kay Corcoran

January 25/26
 4PM— Catherine Shafer/Kathy Tait
 8AM— Cindy & Lauren White

Prayers . . .
 Please remember all of our parishioners who are in hospitals and nursing homes and our homebound. Also, please pray for our deceased parishioners and loved ones especially, Anne Ferro and Walter Miller.



Reflection on the Baptism of the Lord

Many years ago I took a pilgrimage to the Holy Land to see the biblical places often mentioned in the Scriptures. One of our stops was at the Jordon River, something I was looking forwards to, with the thought of wading into the water as Jesus had, professing my faith and recommitting myself to him.

However, when we arrived at the Jordan River, the place where tradition tells us John baptized Jesus, I was surprised by what I saw. It was not at all the beautiful place I had imagined. The water was brown and mucky. Where I expected to see white sand, there were rocks and reeds. There was no way I was getting in that water. But, when you think about Jesus coming to earth, there was nothing glamorous about it. Our sinful humanity was no more appealing to the Son of God than the brown water of the Jordan River was to me. Yet, out of love for us, Jesus took on our sinful human nature with all its weakness and suffering. He was willing to touch lepers, be seen with sinners, and suffer an agonizing death. If our baptismal vows were to mean anything, then I would have to be willing to go from the safe, comfortable dry land into the mucky waters.

This Sunday, we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Though sinless, Jesus submitted himself to the baptism of John the Baptist. He entered the waters of the Jordan River so that we could be baptized not just with water but with the Holy Spirit. Jesus humbled himself throughout his life on earth to bring us all the gifts of God's love. The first gift is baptism, which opens us up to faith, to the Holy Spirit, and to all the other sacraments that follow.

Our baptism is a commitment we make to share Jesus' concern for the lost and the broken. As Isaiah tells us in Sunday's first reading. Jesus came "to open the eyes of the blind, to bring prisoners out of confinement, and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness." If Jesus is willing to stoop down and live a life of service for the poor, we must be willing to do the same or we cannot call ourselves his followers.

We are all searching for God. If He has seemed distant and hard to find, it could be that we are looking in the wrong places. Perhaps we are looking on the mountaintops when we should be looking in the ghettos. Perhaps we are reading books when we should be feeding bellies. Until we are ready to get ourselves dirty, to risk our safety, and to give without counting the cost, God will remain elusive to us. However, if we can follow Jesus into the wet and murky places of our world, it could just be that we will be surprised by his marvelous light shining out from where we least expect it.



Prayer: Walking the Path of Peace

*Let us have faith in the possibility
Of walking the path of peace.
Let us have hope that we may move beyond
The present spiral of sorrow and death.
Let us have the active love that recognizes
The possibility of forgiveness, dialogue, and
reconciliation.*

*As we look to the Cross,
We can see God's wisdom:
Violence is not answered with violence,
Death is not answered with the language of death.
In the silence of the Cross,
May the noise of the weapons cease;
In the teaching of the Prince of Peace,
May we find the way to a world of reconciliation.*

*Let us pray for reconciliation and peace,
Let us work for reconciliation and peace,
And let us all become, in every place,
Men and women of reconciliation and peace!
So may it be.*

Thank You, Fr. Glen P. Baptiste!

Rev. Glen P. Baptiste spoke at all our services about a ministry providing direct relief to the poor throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. Father Baptiste shared his personal witness about Food For The Poor's mission to care for the destitute as a means of living out the Gospel mandate to love one another.

Fr. Baptiste is incarnated in the Diocese of Montego Bay. Before preaching on behalf of Food For The Poor, Fr. Glen taught at St. Louis University, served as an associate pastor in Missouri and served as Rector of the Cathedral Church in Hamilton, Bermuda.

Please thank Father Baptiste for coming to speak to our Parish.

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 and details. Your cooperation is much appreciated!

Catherine's Cupboard Needs Bags

Starting March 2020 PLASTIC BAGS will not be used in stores. We at the pantry re use them currently with a paper bag inside to give it strength. So if you have extra plastic bags or any of the recycle type shopping bags, we all seem to be collecting, we would love them. Paper bags are costly and really don't hold up well so for the sake of our environment and to save money we accept recycle bags of any kind. Just drop in barrel at church foyer or leave in pantry at parish center.

Catherine's Cupboard Volunteer Schedule
Transportation
 Week of Jan. 12th — George & Pat Clark
 Week of Jan. 19th — Karen Dotson
Shelving (Mondays)
 January 13th — K. Mohney
 January 20th — C. Woodruff & M. Ryder
Distribution
 January 21st — M. Walsh, C. Danoski, K. Dotson, P. Peters, R. O'Neil, M. DeNinis

Thank You from United Methodist Homes
 I would like to thank you all for donating gifts to our residents on Nursing 3 here at United Methodist Homes. Your generosity has made it possible for each of our residents to get a personalized and heartfelt gift for this Holiday Season. I am humbled by all of the time and effort your church members took to shop, wrap, and deliver these gifts. You truly have hearts of gold.
 Sincerely, Katherine Micha
 Director of Activities Elizabeth Church Campus

Spiritual Highlights of Iberia, Lourdes & Italy - Faith-Based Travel
20 Day Tour from Lisbon to Rome
Date: October 2nd, 2020 - October 21st, 2020
Price: \$3309 per person/Land rate. Airfare is available from your city.
Vacation Overview:
 Reaffirm and celebrate your faith on this Portugal, Spain, France, and Italy. Along the way, visit some of the world's most famous shrines, pilgrimage sites, and spiritual places.

Why Volunteer?
There are so many reasons to volunteer:

- † Lets you share your knowledge and talents.
- † Provides opportunities for making many new friends.
- † Brings the special fulfillment that comes only from helping others.
- † Helps you "get outside" yourself and put your own problems — even grief — in perspective.
- † Allows you to polish old skills and learn new ones.
- † Lets you "repay" an organization that has helped you or someone you love.

So, go out and give volunteering a try!

Safe Environment Training
 Who must train? All clergy, all members of religious orders, all parish and diocesan employees, including those who have no contact with children, all volunteers whose ministry or role places them in regular contact with children, young people, or vulnerable adults. Completion of a first-time Safe Environment PGC training session is required within 60 days of assumption of duties. Recertification training every 5 years. Visit www.syracusediocese.org/safe-environment to register for a session.

Initial Safe Environment Training (PGC)
 Wednesday March 4th at 1:00 pm
 Catholic Charities of Broome County, Binghamton

Recertification Training (EPDR)
 Wednesday January 15th at 6:00 pm
 St. James Church, Johnson City

Volunteer Opportunity!
 The Broome County Council of Churches is an organization that collaborates with many facets of the community to serve people with needs. Through our growing and diverse programs, the Council provides services to the hungry; elderly and lonely; disabled; sick; imprisoned; homeless and poor; and youth of Broome County. We advocate for change and reconciliation, promoting peace, justice, and genuine community across racial, ethnic, gender, socio-economic, and religious lines. There are many volunteer options available, so go online and sign up to become a volunteer:
<https://broomecouncil.net/volunteer/volunteer-opportunities/>

Theology on Tap Upcoming Series
 In March 2020, the Office of Young Adult Ministry is launching a four-week speaker series. A different speaker will present each week in the series entitled, "What does the Church REALLY teach about..."

March 4th, 11th, 18th, & 25th
7:00PM
@ Dillinger's Celtic Pub & Eatery
(77 State St, Binghamton, NY 13901)

Theology on Tap offers the finest in Speakers, Conversation & Catholic Theology for Young Adults (married and single) in their 20's and 30's.
Please join us!

Help improve our community!

Thank you from Birthright!
 Thank you Fr Tim and St Francis parishioners for your amazing donations to Birthright from your giving tree.
 The huge amount of diapers, baby formula, outfits, sleepers, toys, and crochet and knitted sweaters and afghans will help so many of our clients for Christmas and for months to come.
 St Francis' parish is truly living the spirit of Christmas with your great generosity.

Sincerely,
 Pat McCoy and Diane Yajko
 Birthright of Binghamton

**St. Francis of Assisi Lectors,
Eucharistic Ministers & Altar Servers**
January 18th & 19th, 2020

4:00 P.M. Mass

Lector	Barb Brozovic
EM Host	Dc. Steve
EM Host	John Artman
EM Host	Brenda Artman
EM Cup	Melissa Kliment
EM Cup	Debby Carden
EM Cup	Marge Mangan
EM Cup	Ron Scales
Altar Server	Calliope Brennan
Altar Server	Brendan Kliment
Altar Server	Logan Kliment

8:00 A.M. Mass

Lector	Logan Blakeslee
EM Host	Dc. Steve
EM Host	Ed White
EM Host	Scott Klein
EM Cup	Ede Blabac
EM Cup	Donna or Scott Iglar
EM Cup	Denise Baxter
EM Cup	Steve Baxter
Altar Server	Andrew Rice
Altar Server	Jonah Rice
Altar Server	Juliana Rice

11:00 A.M. Mass

Lector	Charles Linfear
EM Host	Dc. Steve
EM Host	Chris Gill
EM Host	David Gill
EM Cup	Virginia Thompson
EM Cup	Emily Ekstrom
EM Cup	Steve Guth
EM Cup	Betty Church
Altar Server	Abraham Watkins
Altar Server	Alexander Watkins
Altar Server	

Question of the Week

Question for Children: What does God want you to do? To forgive? Be generous? To love?

Question for Youth: As you grow, how do you know what God wants you to do? How do you hear the voice of God saying, "you are one of mine, of my chosen?"

Question for Adults: Today's readings lead to a core question: As you follow God and do what he wants, how do you experience his loving words: "You are my own. My favor is upon you."?

END OF BULLETIN

CHURCH NAME: St. Francis of Assisi
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Contact: Delores A. Farwell or Sue Ekstrom

Comments:
Bulletin copy for **January 12th, 2020**

Deliver 600 copies to St. Francis of Assisi.