

February 07, 2021

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 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
Brendan Heaney
Nicholas Norton
Sacristans

Office Hours:

Monday — Thursday:

7:30 am to 4:30 pm

Friday: Closed

Parish Office Phone: 722-4388

Faith Formation Office Phone:
722-4177

E-mail:

stfrancisbing@syrдио.org

Website:

www.stfrancisbing.org

Follow us on FB & Twitter:

[@stfrancisbing](https://www.facebook.com/stfrancisbing)

Please go online to stfrancisbing.org to view our latest Sunday mass. We will be posting new videos of our weekend liturgies by 4:00PM on Saturdays **even after our reopening.**

Also find the videos on our Facebook (search “@stfrancisbing”) Twitter (search “@stfrancisbing”) YouTube (St. Francis of Assisi Binghamton)

You can still attend weekend mass virtually!



Saturday, February 6, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. 33rd Anniv. Frances Hazen by Jan & Mike Pandich

Sunday, February 7, Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Dick Murphy by Mary & Pat Connors

11:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People

Monday, February 8

12:00 p.m. Edwin Moll by Family

Tuesday, February 9

8:00 a.m. Mary Wilson by Cathy & Jack Fitzgerald

Wednesday, February 10

12:00 p.m. Robert O'Donnell by Melissa Glenn

Thursday, February 11

8:00 a.m. Genevieve O'Loughlin by St. Francis Special Sunshine Committee

Friday, February 12

NO MASS

Saturday, February 13, Vigil of Sunday

4:00 p.m. Bob Shields by Helene Corrigan & Family

Sunday, February 14, Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People

11:00 a.m. Tom Giblin, Sr. by the Novitsky 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 (01-24-21)

Regular/Holy Day Envelopes.....	\$2,275.00
Loose Collection.....	\$68.00
Electronic Collection.....	\$1,462.00
Total Collection.....	\$3,805.00

Thank You for your generous contributions!

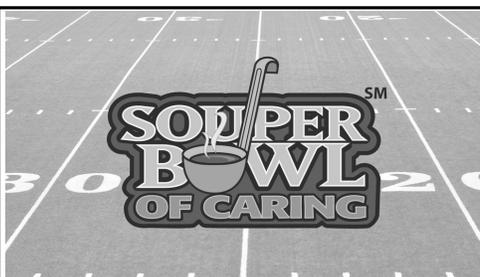
FAITH FORMATION

Faith formation for Grades K-Confirmation meet 9:30-10:45. Confirmation Candidates meet in the Parish Hall.

Looking Ahead:

No Faith Formation next week February 14th.

First Eucharist Rite of Belonging will take place February 21st at the 11 AM Mass. The first 3 pews on either side of the church will be reserved for families of children preparing to receive the Eucharist.



Souper Bowl of Caring is transforming the Big Game into a nationwide movement inspiring people to give locally and make a collective impact on hunger. Mobilizing grassroots resources includ-

ing churches, schools, civic groups and caring individuals. In 2020, over 5,000 groups, including St. Francis of Assisi Faith Formation, collected over \$10.6 million in dollars and food donations for hunger-relief charities across the country. Last year Catherine's Cupboard received \$1,600, so let's try to surpass that this year! Donations will be collected Super Bowl Sunday weekend after all the Masses, or you can contribute online to Catherine' Cupboard February 6-7 to have your donation be included in our Souper Bowl of Caring! Over \$163 million has been collected since Souper Bowl of Caring began in 1990.

CRS Rice Bowls are available in the back of the church. Go to crsricebowl.org for more info!

5th Week in Ordinary Time: Justice Challenge

Justice Challenge: The Gospel reading this weekend describes Jesus healing people all day, and then getting up the next morning to be deeply absorbed in prayer. Jesus cared for the poor and the sick and those marginalized by society. But he never forgot the source of the healing which he did—his heavenly Father, whom he called "Abba". He kept in close contacts with the Father throughout his life. Your challenge this week is to reflect on the relationship between prayer and action in your own lives—as individuals and as a family or household. Do you have a healthy and holy pattern of prayer which is part of your daily routine? Do you let that prayer lead you to the actions which god wants you to take to help heal a hurting world? Remember that part of a vibrant prayer life is letting God speak once you are done talking. Listen to what God wants you to do just as Jesus did on earth.

Lent 2021

Yes, the Lenten season is before us, with **Ash Wednesday on February 17th**. With this in mind I want to put before you how our parish will be embracing this season of renewal and grace. Lent cannot be separated from Easter. Just as it was for the early Christians, it is a time for us to prepare our hearts and reflect more deeply on our baptismal call to continuing conversion. Last year the Lenten season was abruptly interrupted by our unexpected shutdown due to the coronavirus. The virus is still with us, and hopefully the months ahead will show improvements to minimizing its spread. However, this Lent we are going to do the best we can to make this Lenten season a grace-filled time of hope and renewal, as we continue to live through this coronavirus time.

Les Misérables is probably one of the most powerful and moving Broadway musicals in its history. The adaptation of Victor Hugo's book to Broadway, and then to film, has captured the hearts and emotions of people worldwide! Well, this Lent our parish program is entitled, **The Grace of Les Misérables**.

In *The Grace of Les Misérables*, author and pastor Matt Rawle takes a look at the classic *Les Misérables* in a new way—through the lens of faith. Rawle dives into six themes found in the story—grace, justice, poverty, revolution, love, and hope—each represented by a character in Hugo's story. As these imperfect and relatable characters interact, we see how these ideas work together (perhaps even in spite of each other) out in the world. In six sessions, *The Grace of Les Misérables* study looks at the following themes:

1. Grace Well Received: The Story of Jean Valjean
2. When Grace and Justice Collide: The Story of Javert
3. The Poor Are Always with You: The Story of Fantine
4. The Gift of Love: The Story of Marius and Cosette
5. Building the Barricade: The Story of Les Amis
6. The Blessed Garden: A Hopeful Vision

Think about joining in a zoom Lenten Reflective study of *Les Misérables*. The parish has 2 copies of the acclaimed movie (Liam Neeson or Hugh Jackman) if you'd like to familiarize yourself with the story (or read Hugo's book). This study is appropriate for families with older children to do together as a Lenten Study. Please contact the Parish Center so that Participant Books may be ordered. This will be a great way to talk about the miracle of grace and how God is always present in our lives. I am very impressed on how Pastor Matt Rawle has adapted this powerful story to be used for the Lenten season. The six themes mentioned above will also be the focus of our homilies each weekend. The participant book is necessary, and it would make for a good Lenten book to read. **The cost of the book is \$10. Please call the parish center (607-722-4388) to get your copy. There will be reflection/discussion groups via Zoom on Tuesday at 2:00PM and/or 7:00PM as well as Wednesday at 10:00AM.** We may be offering another day and time if requested. I believe that this program will be a positive and refreshing focus as we continue to live through this pandemic time.

Lent also is an opportunity to pray through this crisis with hope. For your daily prayer and reflection we will have available a daily reflection book entitled, **Words for the Weary: Embracing the Lenten Season after a Challenging Pandemic Year**. After a tumultuous year, their words will help you reflect on where we have come and where we are headed this Lenten season. The author of this book, Ann Naffziger, draws from her experience as a mother, wife, and spiritual director in these honest reflections on a year of pandemic challenges and how they can guide us in our discipleship journey. She guides us in embracing the difficulties, frustrations, and sorrows of this time, but also graces that continue to break through. These books will be available at church, or call the parish center to have a copy sent out.

The Stations of the Cross are a ritual of prayer during Lent. We are planning to make Stations of the Cross available to you virtually on our website and Facebook page. The Stations this year will be entitled Stations of Hope. This past year has been a challenge to be hopeful as this health crisis has evolved. In this fresh approach to the Stations of the Cross, Fr. David Knight reminds us that hope can be found in the darkest of places and the true power of the Crucifixion is the opportunity to transform unimaginable pain and suffering into faith, hope, and love. We are planning to have this available the Friday after Ash Wednesday, February 19th.

Because of this pandemic, much more is available to us through social media that can enrich our lives spiritually. Days of prayer and an upcoming retreat are possible by staying in place, and making your home a place of prayer. **Eastern Point Retreat House in Gloucester, Massachusetts is offering the following events:**

February 13th & 14th— Remember that you are loved: God's Valentine's Day

February 17th— Ash Wednesday: Journey begins

February 28th—Holy Ground: Transfigured in Love Days of prayer begin at 9:30AM and end at 4:00PM.

Each day concludes with Liturgy. For more information and registration, contact rvereecke@jesuits.org.

Also, well-known Jesuit author Fr. James Martin, S.J., will preach for a weekend virtual retreat that will draw upon material from his latest book **Learning To Pray: A Guide for Everyone**. Fr. Martin will do virtual-only format due to the current Covid-pandemic realities. The good news is that we can register for this retreat. This "new" virtual retreat will be offered over the Zoom platform. It will include 45-60 minute presentations by Fr. Martin on Friday, March 26th 7:30pm on the Ignatian Examen, on Saturday, March 27th at 10:00am on Ignatian Contemplation, on Saturday afternoon at 1:00pm on Lectio Divina, a "Q&A" open-forum session focused on prayer practices on Saturday evening at 7:30pm, and a final presentation on Sunday, March 28th at 10:00am on "what happens in prayer" followed immediately by the celebration of the Eucharist to conclude this weekend retreat. The cost is \$100. Go to easternpoint.org, click "retreats", scroll down to "weekend" to register for the retreat or contact rvereecke@jesuits.org for more info.

Catherine's Cupboard Volunteer Schedule

Transportation

NO TRANSPORTATION

Shelving (Mondays)

NO SHELIVING

Distribution

February 16th— Alma Short, Michelle Hayes, Ginny Thompson

Ash Wednesday

We begin our Lenten season on **Wednesday, February 17th**, Ash Wednesday. There will be two masses with distribution of ashes, at **12:00PM (noon) and at 5:30P.M.**

The distribution will be done differently due to COVID. We will be using cotton swabs (one per person) to place the ashes so that we may limit contact.

When Receiving Holy Communion:

- †Masks will be worn by ALL
- †Direction will be provided for those receiving
- †The Precious Blood will NOT be offered
- †Reception will involve: receiving the Body of Christ in the hand **ONLY**, stepping aside, lifting the mask, consuming the Eucharist, returning the mask..
- †Please maintain social distancing of 6 feet!

Fenton Free Library



FUND RAISING

Existing Building Improvements
PRE-ORDER Krispy Kreme Doughnuts
Orders due by Wednesday, Feb. 24th
Pickup on Saturday, Feb. 27th, 8 am to 12 pm
FIVE Choices to Pre-Order

ORDER FORM

Name _____

Phone # _____

Due	Variety	Quantity	Amount
Glazed (\$8/dozen)	_____	_____	_____
Chocolate Iced Glazed (\$7/half doz)	_____	_____	_____
Glazed / Lemon filled (\$7/half doz)	_____	_____	_____
Glazed / Rasbery filled (\$7/half doz)	_____	_____	_____
Glazed / Cream filled (\$7/half doz)	_____	_____	_____
Additional Donation to Library		\$	_____
Total Due		\$	_____

Make check payable to "Fenton Free Library"
Drop off or mail form to Library,
1062 Chenango St, Binghamton, NY 13901

NEED HELP GETTING VACCINATED?

Joe Carpenter will be available to help with setting up COVID vaccine appointments from 10:00am to 12:noon Monday through Thursday at the Parish Center. Call ahead to schedule 722-4388.

Catholic Schools Week (Jan. 31st-Feb. 6th)

Celebrating Catholic Schools Week is Jan. 31st— Feb. 6th: Learn more about Catholic Schools of Broome County this week— For a full list of events go to csbsaints.org/csw. Contact the Office of Admissions at 607-231-4149 for more information or to schedule a tour for any of our schools. Apply now. You belong here. csbsaints.org.



Catholic Schools of Broome County

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!

PARISH REGISTRATION

Our warmest welcome to all! We extend our hands and hearts in Christian fellowship to you, celebrating with us, whether you're a long-time resident or newly arrived in the Parish. Please check the appropriate box and place in the collection basket or return to the Parish Center. *We thank God that you're with us.*

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

- New Parishioner, send registration form
- Change of address or phone number
- Temporarily away. Stop envelopes
- Moving, please remove from Parish Roster

**St. Francis of Assisi Lectors,
Eucharistic Ministers & Altar Servers**
February 13th & 14th, 2021

4:00 P.M. Mass

Designation ONLY

8:00 A.M. Mass

Designation ONLY

11:00 A.M. Mass

Designation ONLY

Please go online to
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We will continue to post new videos of our weekend liturgies by 4:00PM on Saturdays, for those who wish to stay home for health and safety concerns.

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Twitter (search “@stfrancisbing”)
YouTube (St. Francis of Assisi Binghamton)

**You can still attend weekend mass
virtually!**

**Children’s Liturgy of The Word will be
posted by Noon on Saturdays!**

Question of the Week

Question for Children: What can you do to help your friends and classmates know more about Jesus?

Question for Youth: Jesus knew that his mission was for everyone, not just one village or group of people. How can you reach out to others (outside of friends and family) and offer them hope and Good News?

Question for Adults: If you were going to pray for healing for any reason, what would it be? What needs to be healed in our world and society?

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 **February 7th, 2021**

Deliver 250 copies to St. Francis of Assisi.



2021 Lent Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>"Lent is the liturgical season of forty days which begins with Ash Wednesday and ends with the celebration of the Paschal Mystery (Easter Triduum). Lent is the primary penitential season in the Church's liturgical year, reflecting the forty days Jesus spent in the desert fasting and praying" (Catechism of the Catholic Church).</p> <p>21 After Mass, decide what you need to move aside in your life in order to truly experience Jesus during Lent.</p>	<p>22 Raise the level of your prayer and really think about the meaning of the words you are saying.</p>	<p>February</p> <p>23 Put a cross, crucifix, or other image of Jesus in each room of your home to help keep you focused.</p>	<p>17 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> If possible, attend an Ash Wednesday liturgy and wear the cross of ashes. If not, stream it.</p>	<p>18 Choose Lenten offerings of prayer, penance, and almsgiving.</p>	<p>19 Abstain from eating meat today, and make your meals truly penitential.</p>	<p>20 Pick a saint to learn about and imitate. Ask for his or her special help and protection during Lent.</p>
<p>28 Choose someone who has passed away or needs extra help as your Mass intention today.</p>	<p>1 March Pray an extra Rosary today and every day this week.</p>	<p>3 Ask Jesus to heal whatever separates you from feeling God's bountiful love.</p>	<p>24 As an extra Lenten offering, give up something you enjoy — just for today.</p>	<p>4 Read the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17) and renew your commitment to keep them.</p>	<p>5 Eat a meatless meal and remember why you are abstaining.</p>	<p>6 Adopt a local nursing home. Make cards for the residents, and offer prayers for each of them.</p>
<p>7 Take one idea from today's Gospel reading or homily to implement during the coming week.</p>	<p>8 At the end of the day, make an examination of conscience. Resolve to amend your life.</p>	<p>10 Deal with anyone in your life who may be interfering with your relationship with God.</p>	<p>11 Try to find the time to read an entire Gospel at one sitting.</p>	<p>11 Try to find the time to read an entire Gospel at one sitting.</p>	<p>12 Make a fresh start on your Lenten journey today. Renew your Lenten observances.</p>	<p>13 Attend a parish Reconciliation Service, if you feel safe, or go to Confession on your own.</p>
<p>14 <i>Lactare Sunday</i> Celebrate the halfway point of Lent. Do something fun after Mass today.</p>	<p>15 Go to a private room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret.</p>	<p>17 Resolve to go the entire day without judging or criticizing anyone.</p>	<p>18 Pick one way you can simplify your lifestyle to make more room for God.</p>	<p>18 Pick one way you can simplify your lifestyle to make more room for God.</p>	<p>19 Figure out how much money you saved by not eating meat today and give it to the poor.</p>	<p>20 Trim down your possessions and give what you don't need to the poor.</p>
<p>21 Look around your neighborhood today for signs of new life.</p>	<p>22 Get up an extra 15 minutes each day for the next two weeks and spend that time in prayer.</p>	<p>24 Make a conscious effort to see everyone with loving eyes today.</p>	<p>25 Today, pray for someone you don't like.</p>	<p>25 Today, pray for someone you don't like.</p>	<p>26 Eat pretzels today as a reminder that Catholics used to fast from milk, butter, eggs, cheese, cream, and meat.</p>	<p>27 Perform some act of service for your parish. Ask at the rectory for suggestions.</p>
<p>28 Place Palms around each of the images of Jesus in your home. Welcome the Messiah into your heart.</p>	<p>29 Recite the Profession of Faith or the Apostle's Creed each day this week.</p>	<p>31 Try to find a reasonable explanation for some offense you may have suffered and let God be the final judge.</p>	<p>1 April Look for someone who is poor or homeless and share your food.</p>	<p>1 April Look for someone who is poor or homeless and share your food.</p>	<p>2 Meditate on the Stations of the Cross today. Try to imagine yourself at the scene of each one.</p>	<p>3 Think about a way in which you might have betrayed Jesus today. Ask his pardon.</p>