

February 11, 2024

# St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 13901

**REMEMBER THAT YOU ARE LOVED...**

Ash  
Wednesday  

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Valentine's  
Day



**REMEMBER THAT YOU ARE DUST.**

## 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 Kliment  
Sarah & Mary Bush  
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@syrdio.org

## Website:

[www.stfrancisbing.org](http://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.

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@stfrancisbing](https://youtube.com/stfrancisbing)



**Saturday, February 10, Vigil of Sunday**  
4:00 p.m. Dick Talbut by St. Francis Special Sunshine Committee

**Sunday, February 11, Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

10:30 a.m. Roberta Cushing by Michael Boa

**Monday, February 12**

**NO MASS**

**Tuesday, February 13**

8:00 a.m. Edwin Moll by Marge & Family

**Wednesday, February 14, Ash Wednesday (All Liturgies held in Church)**

8:00 a.m. Tim Giblin by Maureen & Mark Kadlecik

12:00 p.m. Bob Fitzgerald by Judy & Marv Frey

7:00 p.m. Joint Prayer Service with Ogden Methodist Church

**Thursday, February 15**

8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People

**Friday, February 16**

**NO MASS**

**Saturday, February 17, Vigil of Sunday**

4:00 p.m. Daniel Mc Garry by Marge Mangan

**Sunday, February 18, First Sunday of Lent**

10:30 a.m. Jackie Chantel by Maureen Mizzoni

### **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 5 till 7 (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 1200 people, requiring a budget of close to \$50,000 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 [stfrancisbing.org](http://stfrancisbing.org)**

### **Weekend's Offering (02-04-24)**

Regular Envelopes.....	\$4,000.00
Loose Collection.....	\$300.00
Electronic Collection.....	\$2,300.00
Total Collection.....	\$6,600.00

### **FAITH FORMATION**

**Faith Formation, 9--10:15AM Grades K--4/7--9. Grades 5 & 6 meet at the Mini-Retreat, Fishing for Disciples at St. Vincent /Blessed Sacrament 1-3PM.**

#### **Looking Ahead:**

†Confirmation Service Retreat, Friday, February 16. Gather at the Parish Center 1031 Chenango St. at 9AM. Retreat will end with Stations of the Cross at Noon in the Church.

†No Faith Formation next weekend February 18th. President's Weekend.

**FISHING FOR DISCIPLES**

"AND THEN HE SAID TO THEM, FOLLOW ME AND I WILL MAKE YOU FISHERS OF MEN." MATTHEW 4:19

Sunday, February 11, 2024  
1:00 - 3:00  
5th & 6th Grade Mini Retreat

St. Vincent de Paul Blessed Sacrament Church Hall  
465 Clubhouse Road, Vestal NY

Cost is Free

Register: <https://forms.gle/rzGfampjThgavJ4BA> or by using the QR code

If you have any questions contact your parish catechetical leader.

### **ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES**

**8:00AM—LITURGY  
IN THE CHURCH**

**ASHES DISTRIBUTED  
AT BOTH LITURGIES**

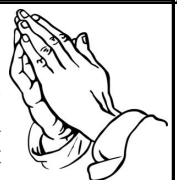
**12 NOON—LITURGY  
IN THE CHURCH**

**7:00PM—JOINT  
PRAYER SERVICE  
WITH OGDEN  
METHODIST IN OUR  
CHURCH**



### **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 especially Robert Moore and Antonio Versace.



**Prayer for Black History Month***Good and Gracious God,**Thank you for the opportunity to come together once again to praise your name.**We know and understand that it is through your grace that all of our people's blessings have come forth. It is with awe, wonder, and humility that we ask you to continue to hear our prayers, raise our spirits, and heal our wounds.**We pray that with open hearts we can recognize and realize that Black history is part of all of our histories.**We ask your favor in guiding us so that we can one day celebrate Black history in ways that move beyond one month and become part of our everyday lives.**We pray and uphold the stories and histories of individuals that have been lost to history but whose lives impacted others and left imprints in small ways.**In our prayer, we recognize that these stories and this history may divide us.**Help us hear our truth in this history.**We pray that our sisters and brothers Thea Bowman, Mary Lange, Pierre Toussaint, Julia Greely, Henriette DeLille, and Augustus Tolton will soon be recognized as saints for their individual and collective contributions to our Church.**Open our eyes and hearts so that what we hear and learn this month can become part of our histories moving forward into the days and weeks ahead.**Come into our lives and breathe in us the grace of your wisdom and understanding.**We ask this in your name, Amen.***Prayer for Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day***O loving and merciful God,**This Wednesday we celebrate a day about joy, love, and celebration alongside a day about sacrifice, remembering our mortality, and recalling our dependence on you.**Lord, let us never forget to invite you into all of our experiences**The joys as well as the sorrows,**The excitements as well as the frustrations,**And the healthy moments as well as the sick ones.**Allow us to honor you who gave us the ultimate gift of love and also the ultimate gift of sacrifice.**You are the one love that was here at the beginning of our lives and will be here long after we have returned to dust.**May we kneel before you, Lord, in humble adoration**May we take up our cross and follow**Amen.***Lent 2024**

We are just a few weeks away from the start of the Lenten Season. To start on **Ash Wednesday**, there will be **TWO LITURGIES** with the distribution of ashes at 8:00AM and 12 Noon. There will be a joint prayer service at 7:00PM with our neighbors, Ogden Hillcrest Methodist Church, and we will be hosting the service.

Lent is a season for personal and social conversion to live our lives with greater authenticity, depth, and meaning. A time to change from old ways of living to New Life in and with the Risen Christ. The 40 day Lenten Season is a period of grace and a time for sacrifice and spiritual reflection preparing us for the joyful celebration of Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

**Prayer** in the Lenten Season can be taking time more regularly for personal prayer. An aid in this attempt can be using the **Journey Together Through Lent**. This reflection book for Lent weaved in the Eucharistic Revival and the Synod on Synodality. Ann Naffziger's reflections for Lent remind us that faith is not something we do alone. We worship together, learn from each other, and serve those in need. Together we are the Body of Christ. Together, we are the church. Books will be available in the church on the weekend of **February 10/11th**.

One simple way to enhance your Lenten experience is to participate in the CRS Rice Bowl Program. During Lent, families across the United States use a Rice Bowl—a small cardboard box—to collect alms/donations. Each Rice Bowl also comes with a calendar that guides you through the 40 days with activities, reflections, recipes, and stories from people around the world.

As Catholics, the spiritual pillars of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving guide us in daily reflection on our own lives as we strive to deepen our relationship with God and neighbor—no matter where in the world our neighbor may live. Lent is a time of personal and spiritual growth, a time to look outward and inward.

**Our parish focus this Lent** will be on the Eucharist. Our Lenten Book Club selection will be a **Pastoral Guide to Pope Francis's Desiderio Desideravi** written by Rita Ferrone. The text will be divided into 6 sections to read, reflect, and discuss each week. Books are available at the Parish Center for \$10 each. Book Club will meet on Tuesdays at 2:00PM and 7:00PM in the church hall beginning on February 20th. This book focuses on Pope Francis' Eucharist reflection. So, please join us!

**Lent 2024: Stations of the Cross**

Stations of the Cross will take place **every Friday of Lent beginning on February 16th**. Stations will **start at 12:00 NOON** in the church and will be **followed by a Communion Service**. All are welcome! Join us!

**CRS Rice Bowl: Lent is Coming**

Join our faith community in a transformative Lenten journey through CRS Rice Bowl to meet people in Uganda, El Salvador, and Indonesia who are working to overcome the challenges of hunger and the impact of climate change. We will reflect on our connectedness as one family in Christ. Visit **crsricebowl.org** for more.

## Catherine's Cupboard Distribution Volunteer Schedule

**February 20th:** M. Hayes, K. Dotson, and A. & S. Faughnan

### Presentation/Discussion on Global Warming by Diane Stefani

**Sunday, February 25th  
after 10:30AM Mass**

**St. Francis of Assisi Church Hall**

Join us for a personal discussion about how global warming is changing our environment. Consider the changes we see right here in the Southern Tier. Engage in conversation about what we can do to create a better future for ourselves, our families and our friends. Facilitator, Diane Stefani, is an active community volunteer. She is a trained Climate Reality Project leader and co-chair of the Finger Lakes Greater Region chapter. She serves on the executive committee of Tier Energy Network, a regional network of industry, community and higher education representatives supporting the development of energy strategy for New York State. She is a former chair and ongoing member of the Broome County Environmental Management Council.

**All are welcome. Please join us!**

### Ladies of Charity Scholarships

The Ladies of Charity will award three \$1,000 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 April 17, 2024.**

# URGENT

*Eucharistic Ministers  
needed for all  
10:30AM Sunday  
Masses*

*Please call the parish  
center at 607-722-4388  
to sign up!*

# URGENT

### 6th Sunday in Ordinary: Creation Care Tip

"So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God." –1 Corinthians 10:31. It's so easy to forget to slow down, savor, and give thanks for the fruits of the earth which nourish us each day. As you eat this week, intentionally give glory to God through your gratitude for the sun, the rain, and the laborers who have all made your meal possible. Give thanks for your food, knowing that many people in this world go hungry.

### 6th Sunday in Ordinary: Justice Challenge

This Sunday's Gospel is about the leper who touches Jesus' heart. While leprosy isn't rampant in our communities today, many people suffer from the poverty of relationships which lepers suffered in Jesus' time. There are people in our own communities who have no one who loves them except God. And they may not experience God's love because they have no human love to help them recognize God's love. They are the lonely, the alienated; some are scared, or angry or wounded. Your challenge this week is to take the compassion in your heart beyond your immediate circle of loved ones and extend that compassion to someone who is alone. What can you do as a family or household to bring love into this person's life? And can you commit to making it more than a one-time act of kindness and care? How can you continue to let this person know that he or she is not alone in this world, that God loves them, and that you do, too?

### Ash Wednesday: Simple Soup Supper

Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernian's Division I will hold a Simple Soup Supper on Ash Wednesday, February 14th from 4:00PM—6:00PM at AOH Hall (148 Main St., Binghamton). Pre-order/Takeout ONLY. Broccoli Cheddar or Minestrone Soup served with Artisan Bread and a "Sweet Surprise" for \$8.00. Order your pints of soup by February 7th.

Call in or text orders to:

Kathy (607)760-4297 or Maureen (607)206-2963

Your support is appreciated!

### Chenango Bridge Community Blood Drives

**Tuesday, February 20th  
1:00PM—6:00PM**

**Proudly Sponsored by St. Francis of Assisi Church  
Held in the Church Hall  
1049 Chenango St.  
Binghamton, NY 13901**

**ALSO**

**Friday, February 23rd  
1:00PM—6:00PM**

**Sponsored by Fenton Free Library  
1062 Chenango St.  
Binghamton, NY 13901**

**BLOOD DRIVES SAVE LIVES!**

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

**February 17th & 18th, 2024**

4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Kylie Murphy
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	McKenzie Murphy
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	TBD
4:00 Mass	Lector	Rosemary Rounds
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Anne Smilnak
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Betsy A Shields
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Deb Carden
4:00 Mass	EM Cup	Mary Russik
4:00 Mass	EM Cup	Carol Danoski

10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Michaela Wood
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Mary Bush
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	TBD
10:30 Mass	Lector	Joe Sardella
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Ede Blabac
10:30 Mass	EM Host	
10:30 Mass	EM Host	
10:30 Mass	EM Cup	Maureen Mizzoni
10:30 Mass	EM Cup	Catherine Shafer

**Children's Liturgy of the Word Schedule**

**February 11—Amy Drake and Maria Kirk**

**February 18— ONLINE ONLY**

**February 25— Patti Klepfer and Toni Robinson**

**\*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:** What do you want to ask Jesus to do for you?

**Question for Youth:** How has Jesus touched your life? How are you changed because of that touch?

**Question for Adults:** Name a time when you experienced Jesus' healing touch.

# 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 11th, 2024**

**Deliver 300 copies to St. Francis of Assisi.**