

February 12, 2023

# 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 Kliment  
Nick Norton  
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

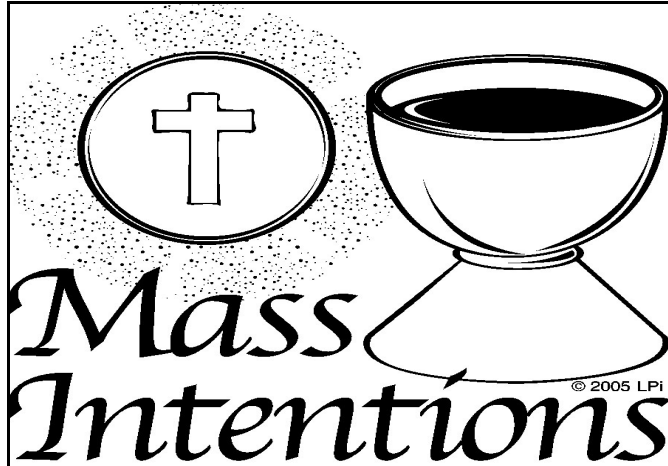
## Website:

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

Please go online to  
**stfrancisbing.org** to view  
our latest weekend reflection.  
We will be posting new  
videos by 4:00PM on  
Saturdays.

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

**Follow us on FB & Twitter:**  
**@stfrancisbing**



**Saturday, February 11, Vigil of Sunday**  
4:00 p.m. Dick Talbut by Wife, Doris & Family

**Sunday, February 12, Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

10:30 a.m. Dick Murphy by Wife, Judy & Family

**Monday, February 13**

12:00 p.m. Liturgy for the People

**Tuesday, February 14**

8:00 a.m. Martha Savo by St. Francis Choir

**Wednesday, February 15**

**NO MASS**

**Thursday, February 16**

**NO MASS**

**Friday, February 17**

**NO MASS**

**Saturday, February 18, Vigil of Sunday**

4:00 p.m. Liturgy for the People

**Sunday, February 19, Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

10:30 a.m. Ricky Medina by Brian & Amanda Taugher

### **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 (02-05-23)**

Regular Envelopes.....	\$4,819.00
Loose Collection.....	\$424.00
Electronic Collection.....	\$3,142.00
Total Collection.....	\$8,385.00

### **Faith Formation**

**Faith Formation for Grades K-9 meets today from 9:00AM--10:15AM in the Parish Hall.**

### **Looking Ahead:**

- † **Confirmation 2023 Service Retreat Friday, February 17th** at 9:00 AM--12:30 PM. Candidates meet at the Parish Center (1031 Chenango Street), at 9:00 AM.
- † **PLEASE NOTE: CALENDAR CHANGE**--no winter carnival on February 19th, there will be a Lenten Rice Bowl Prayer Service and activity on February 26th for Grades K-9 in the Parish Hall.
- † First Eucharist Rite of Belonging Sunday, February 26th at 10:30 AM Mass.

### **Happy Valentine's Day!**

Remember the words of Jesus, "Love one another as I have loved you." The late Pope Benedict XVI wrote an encyclical entitled, "God is Love". A thought to remember; "Love grows through love. Love is 'divine' because it comes from God and unites us to God; through this unifying process it makes us a 'we' which transcends our divisions and makes us one; until the end God is 'all in all.'"

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

We are now beginning to reap what we have sown regarding environmental degradation. In our insatiable appetite for paper, plastic, gasoline, red meat, fish, food flown in from around the world, precious minerals, and irrigated green lawns, our society has been choosing diminishment and death for the natural world. God isn't cursing us with droughts, floods, melting glaciers, and global warming; they are the outcome of choices we have made for decades. Individual choices for conservation won't be enough now to reverse the consequences we have set into motion as a collective. This week, find a way to add your voice and efforts to a communal movement that chooses life in our environment.

### **Special Guest Visiting**

The **St. Anuarite African Choir** from All Saints Church in Syracuse will be with us on **February 19th for our 10:30AM Liturgy**. A choir membership of 20 members were once refugees from African countries, and formed choirs in refugee camps. They will bring a wonderful spirit with their music and ethnic dress. So set aside time to come to this liturgy and welcome our guests to the parish.

### **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, Paul Ranucci.



## Lent 2023

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 they 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 Lenten Season focuses on the three spiritual pillars of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. This 40 day period of grace is 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 **Black Books** that have a reflection for each day of Lent. These books will be available in the church on the weekend of February 18/19th.

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 of Lent with activities, reflections, recipes, and stories from communities and 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. It is a journey in mercy.

Our **parish Lenten focus** will be on the reality of social sin. The concept of social sin is rooted in personal sin. The real danger of social sin or structural sin is that our blindness prevents us from recognizing it. How can we recognize structural/social sin? We will be addressing this during this Lenten Season. We will begin with the addressing the sins that effect our environment and climate. These sins would be any “action or omission against God, against others, the community, and the environment. It is a sin against future generations and is manifested in the acts and habits of pollution and destruction of the harmony of the environment.” (Pope Francis)

This year during Lent instead of a book club or Bible study, our parish invites you to examine social sin in our world. We will meet in-person to watch 4 documentaries:

- **The Letter**, which deals with the encyclical Laudato Si and follows the work of 4 different people in trying to protect the environment.
- **Going Home Like a Shooting Star** follows the life of Sr. Thea Bowman, who lovingly showed the church and the world the ways that racism is entrenched in our social systems.

**CONTINUED**—>

And 2 Georgetown University documentaries,

- **After Buffalo, After Uvalde, After Tulsa**, this conversation on gun violence responds to the question: What does Catholic Social teaching require to change racist attitudes and structures in our country.
- **“Who is my Neighbor?”** addressing the encyclical Fratelli Tutti, Pope Francis’ personal call to encounter, friendship and solidarity to all in our lives, community, and world.

All of these video presentations will take place in our parish hall on Tuesday’s at 2 and 7 pm and will be followed by group discussion. [stfrancisbing.org](http://stfrancisbing.org) for more

## Black History Month

February is designated as Black History Month, a time to celebrate and highlight the rich values of our African-American brothers and sisters through advocacy, through professional life, and through the arts. In our Catholic Church there are six leaders of African Descent on the road to Sainthood. This Sunday, and the following Sundays in February we will highlight these individuals and what they have contributed to our Catholic Church here in America. The first person we highlight is

**Venerable Pierre Toussaint (1776—1853)**, a philanthropist and founder of many Catholic charitable works, was born a slave in Haiti and brought from Haiti to New York as an apprentice under a popular hairstylist in the city. He eventually became the most sought-after hairdresser of high society women. Upon the death of his master, he gained his freedom and quickly succeeded as one of the country’s first black entrepreneurs.



He became quite wealthy, but instead of spending lavishly on himself, he supported the Church and the poor. He and his wife sheltered orphans and others on the streets. He founded one of New York’s first orphanages and raised money for the city’s first cathedral. During yellow fever epidemics, Toussaint would risk his life by nursing the sick and praying with the dying. *“I have never felt I am a slave to any man or woman but I am a servant of Almighty God who made us all. When one of his children is in need, I am glad to be His slave.”*

## 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Justice Challenge

The Gospel for Sunday is part of the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus is focusing on keeping the commandments. He emphasizes that the Fifth Commandment, “Thou shalt not kill,” means more than not taking someone’s life. It also means not being angry or destroying someone’s self-esteem by calling them names. Your challenge this week is to look at your life and examine where you might have hurt someone—physically, emotionally through negative gossip, cyber criticism, or derogatory words, or even spiritually by giving bad example. Make a commitment to changing that hurtful behavior, say a prayer for the person you have hurt, and try to have the courage to ask forgiveness in person.

## Catherine's Cupboard Distribution Volunteer Schedule

February 21st— G. Thompson and K. & T. Barnhart

## DeBella Scholarship: Due April 27th

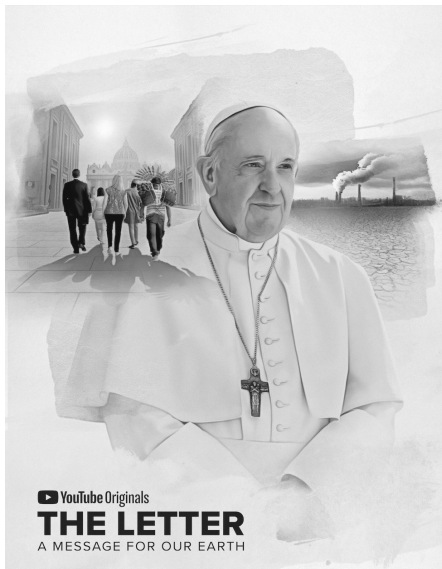
DeBella Scholarship Applications are available on the website. Graduating Seniors are encouraged to fill out and return an application for a grant. **Applications are due 4 PM, Thursday, April 27th.** Applications are available on our website,

[stfrancisbing.org/scholarship-forms-and-contests](http://stfrancisbing.org/scholarship-forms-and-contests)

## Ladies of Charity Scholarships

The Ladies of Charity will award three \$500 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 19, 2023.**

## St. Francis of Assisi Screening of "The Letter: A Message for our Earth"



We are happy to announce that next month we will be holding community screenings of "The Letter", an 80-minute documentary film produced by Oscar-winning Off the Fence Productions in collaboration with the Laudato Si' Movement and the Vatican. The film brings to life the transformative vision of Laudato Si', Pope Francis'

encyclical letter on the environment, to inspire lasting action for our common home. It features Pope Francis and diverse stories from India, Senegal, Hawaii, and the Brazilian Amazon. Each of these local leaders represents a voice that is not being heard—the voice of wildlife, the voice of the Indigenous, the voice of the youth, and the voice of the poor. The film follows these people coming together in dialogue with each other and with Pope Francis as they find unity in their distinct worldviews and strength in our common values.

The screenings will take place at St. Francis of Assisi's Parish Hall (1049 Chenango Street in Binghamton) on **Tuesday, February 28th at 2:00PM and at 7:00PM.**

It is well worth watching as a faith community!  
All are welcome, so please join us!

## Rosary and Religious Item Donations

The Sisters of St. Joseph are helping the immigrants, homeless, and those who need a Christian reminder by giving them rosaries and religious items. If anyone would like to donate rosaries or other religious items, there is a basket on the back table of the church.

Thank you for your generosity!



# BE AWESOME. GIVE BLOOD.



Donate blood at the LIFESAVER blood drives!

**Red Cross Blood Drive**  
**St. Francis of Assisi Church Hall**  
**Tuesday, February 21**  
**1:00PM—6:00PM**

Give the gift of health and hope and give blood!  
Please consider giving a power red cell donation if you are type O-, O+, A-, or B-

*A day of Fun, Learning and Sacraments!*

# LORD

# OPEN MY EYES

## Sunday, March 19

1:00pm to 5:00pm including 4:00pm Mass

7th, 8th & 9th Grade

(Please register by March 5th)

## St. Patrick's Church

58 Oak St., Binghamton 13905

Drop off & pick-up: Use gym entrance.

Contact Maria Kirk [Mkirk@syrdio.org](mailto:Mkirk@syrdio.org) for more info!

**COST IS FREE!**

**Register here:**



SCAN ME

**St. Francis of Assisi Lectors,  
Eucharistic Ministers & Altar Servers**  
**February 18th & 19th, 2023**

4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Thalia Brennan
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Calliope Brennan
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Logan Kliment
4:00 Mass	Lector	Rosemary Rounds
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Mike Stricek
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Mary Russik
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Catherine Shafer
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Jonah Rice
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Juliana Rice
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	TBD
10:30 Mass	Lector	Anne Wolanski
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Jules Furrer
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Marie Iobst
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Shirley McCray

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

**10:30 AM Mass**

**February 12: Ede & Sarah Blabac**

**February 19: ONLINE ONLY**

**February 26: Maria Kirk & Amy Drake**

**VIRTUAL LITURGIES**

Please go online to  
**stfrancisbing.org**  
to watch our latest Sunday Mass or Liturgy  
of the Word as well as Children's Liturgy  
videos.

We will continue to post new videos for  
reflection by 4:00PM on Saturdays.

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

**You can still view children's liturgy  
virtually!**

**Question of the Week**

**Question for Children:** Which rules  
cause you the most difficulty? Why?

**Question for Youth:** In your own  
words, describe what the spirit of  
God's law is.

**Question for Adults:** Have you con-  
sidered that laws are made with  
love? Do you accept God's love  
through his laws?

# END OF BULLETIN

CHURCH NAME: St. Francis of Assisi  
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Comments:  
Bulletin copy for **February 12th, 2023**

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