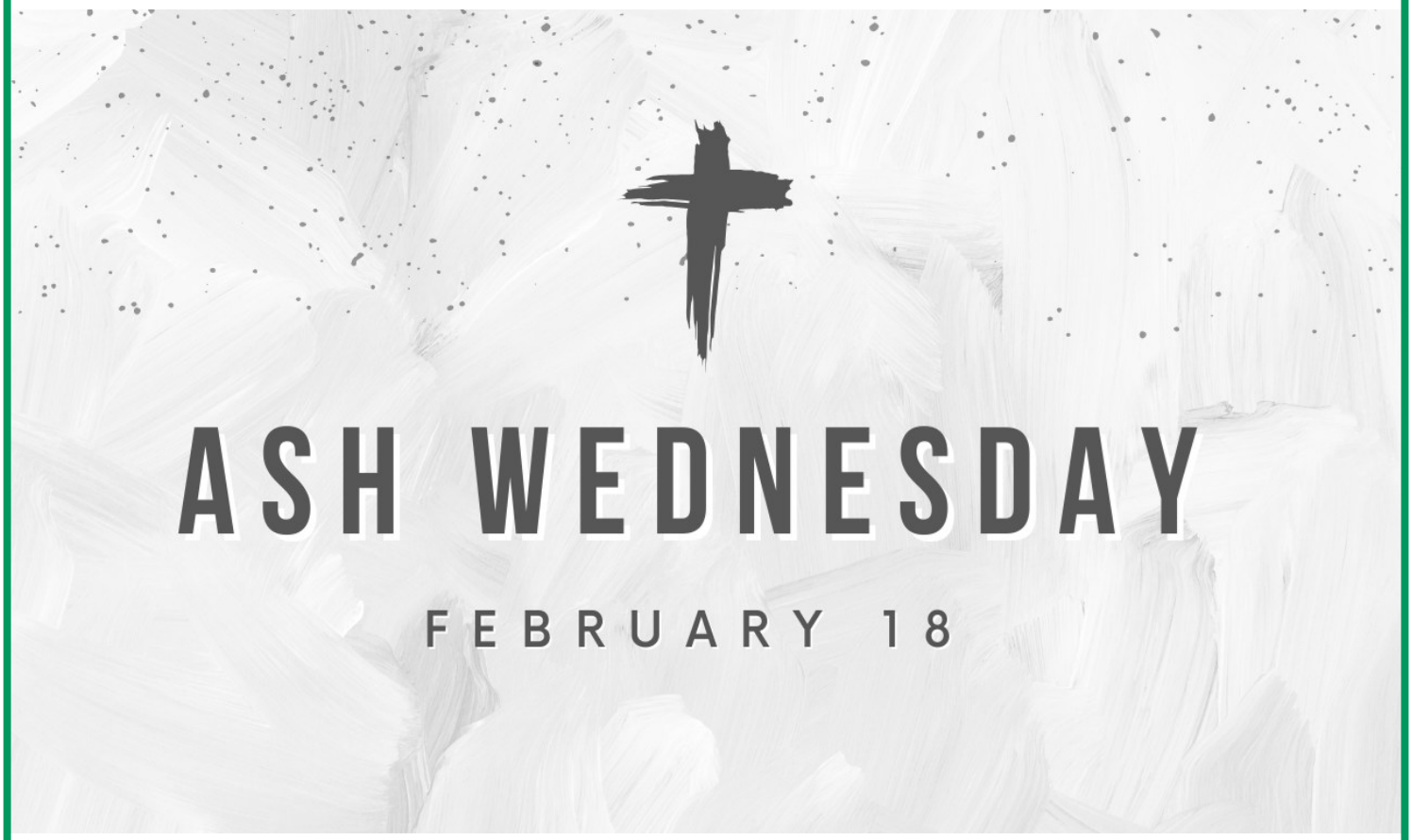
February 15, 2026

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@syrdio.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, February 14, Vigil of Sunday
4:00 p.m. Daniel Grady by Carol & Bob Danoski
Sunday, February 15, Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
10:30 a.m. Kathleen Broderick by St. Francis Special Sunshine Committee
Monday, February 16
12:00 p.m. Kathryn Healy by John & Brenda Artman
Tuesday, February 17
8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People
Wednesday, February 18, Ash Wednesday (Liturgies in Church)
8:00 a.m. Anthony Laskowsky by Marge Mangan
12:00 p.m. Stephanie Stracuzzi by St. Francis Special Sunshine Committee
7:00 p.m. Joint Prayer Service with Ogden at St. Francis
Thursday, February 19
8:00 a.m. William Reschke by Sister Susan
Friday, February 20
NO MASS
Saturday, February 21, Vigil of Sunday
4:00 p.m. Doris Talbut by Carol & Bob Danoski
Sunday, February 22, First Sunday of Lent
10:30 a.m. Patrick Fitzgerald & Tim Reardon by the Grady Family

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 6200 people, requiring a budget of close to $90,000 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***

Profit & Loss Weekly Summary (02-09-26)

Ordinary Contributions	$5,909
Loose Cash	$250
Repair & Maintenance	$338
Catherine's Cupboard	$3,015
Catholic Schools	$180
Other	$2,721
Capital Campaign	$225
Total Contributions	**$12,638**
Ordinary Expenses	$8,743
Repair & Maintenance	$710
Catherine's Cupboard	$1,136
Capital Improvements	$297
Total Expenses	**$10,886**
TOTAL	**$1,752**

Faith Formation

No Faith Formation on February 15th--
Happy President's Day
Faith Formation meets again February 22 for Grades K-8

Looking Ahead:

- Confirmation 2026 Service Retreat Tuesday, February 17th. Meet in the Faith Formation Office at 1031 Chenango Street, NOT the church.
- First Eucharist Mini-Retreat Saturday February 28th 9:30 AM--Noon in the Parish Hall

Fun times were had at this year's Winter Carnival. Thank you for your donations of school supplies for the confirmation service project.

Children's Choir Schedule

Sunday Rehearsals (11:45am-12:30pm):
February 22nd
March 1st March 8th March 15th April 12th
April 19th April 26th
Saturday Rehearsals (3:00pm-3:45pm):
March 21st March 28th

Ash Wednesday (02/18/2026)

- **8:00AM Mass with Ashes**
- **12:00PM Mass with Ashes**
- **7:00PM Prayer Service with Ashes**

St. Francis of Assisi Church

Lenten Prayer

We travel through Deserts and despair
As we focus on how Christ was crucified,
And is crucified in the world today.
We agree to make this journey, this pilgrimage,
And to leave life as usual, business as usual,
To pay attention,
To be present to pain and suffering.
The journey to the Light of Easter
Can only go this way.
We choose to learn this hard truth,
To accept the ashes, To witness the darkness,
To walk the way of the Cross
As it happens in our world.
Let us journey together, open to the world,
So we may be renewed
And help bring to all the renewal of Resurrection.

Lenten Masses for Penance and Lamentation

Thursdays in March
5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th
5:00PM in the Church
No 8:00AM Masses on these days
More information to follow

Deacon Steve's Reminders

1. The Holy Hour is continuing each Friday at Noon to 1PM in the Chapel in the Parish Center.
2. The Stations of the Cross will be offered on the Fridays of Lent at 7 pm in the Church. A 6 pm pot-luck dinner will be held at 6 pm each week before the Stations in the Church Hall. Please no meat dishes.
3. Any child who has made his/her First Communion is eligible to be an Altar Server. Please contact Deacon Steve at either 607-648-2155 or Steveblabac@yahoo.com for training.

Facts About ICE and Detainees

In 2016, the annual budget for ICE, was less than $6 billion — smaller than other agencies within the Department of Homeland Security. But this year ICE's budget is $85 billion, due to the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, enacted last July -- becoming the highest-funded U.S. law enforcement agency. To put this into perspective, the budget for the entire Justice Department, including the FBI, stands at a little over $35 billion.

(Source: Congress.gov "Overview of FY2026 Appropriations for Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies (CJS)")

ICE agents train for 47 days -- down from a 112 day program in 2015.

(Source: Department of Homeland Security)

As of Christmas 2025, ICE was holding 68,440 people in detention. About 73% of them had no criminal convictions. The vast majority of detainees are not "the worst of the worst." Rather as of January, just 29% of those detained by ICE had criminal records and approximately 8% of those were violent or property crimes -- including minor assaults.

(Source: Cato Institute via Immigration and Customs Enforcement, "ICE Initial Book-Ins by Criminality and MSC: FY2025 YTD")

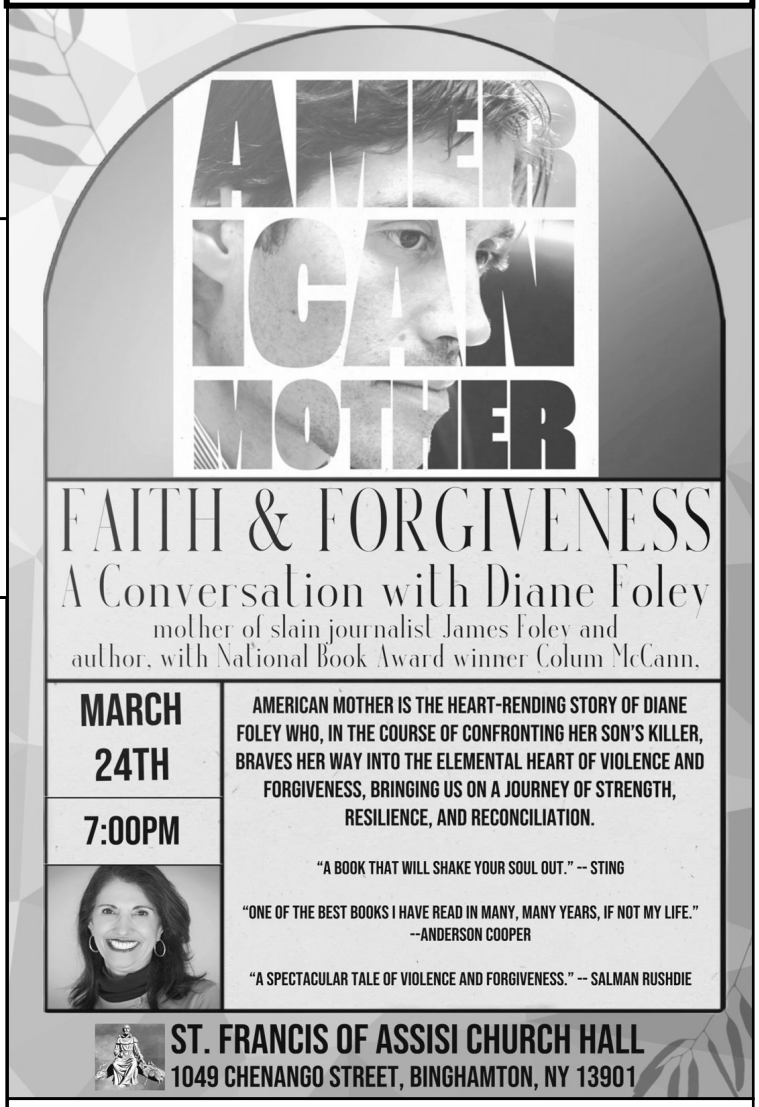
Parish Mission

Quenching the Deepest Thirst:

Pope Leo's Call to Become Witnesses of Hope in a World for Living Water

With Guest Speaker Denise Utter

Monday, March 9th
7:00PM
Tuesday, March 10th
7:00PM
Tuesday, March 10th Mass at 8:00AM
9:00AM (Abbreviated Mission)
St. Francis of Assisi Church Hall



Lenten Book Club

This year's Lenten Book Club will begin on Tuesday, February 24th at 2:00PM or 7:00PM. We are reading "American Mother" by Colum McCann with Diane Foley in preparation for their visit to the parish. Books are available for purchase at the parish center for $15.

Catherine's Cupboard Distribution Volunteer Schedule
February 17th

1:00—3:00PM	5:00PM—Until Served
R. Rounds, B. Grace, and A. & S. Faughnan	K. Dotson, M. Hayes, C. Danoski, and P. Peters

DONATION PAMPHLET

CATHERINE'S CUPBOARD

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!

Simple Soup Supper

Ladies Ancient Order of the Hiberian's Division 1 will hold a **Simple Soup Supper on Ash Wednesday, February 18th from 4PM—6PM at the AOH Hall (148 Main St.)** Pre-order/Take-out Only. Creamy Potato or Minestrone Soup will be served with Artisan Bread for $8. Order your pints by February 11th. Phone or text orders to Kathy (607)760-4297 or Maureen (607)206-2963.

Tax Information For Donations

Those who made a $250 or more donation to St. Francis of Assisi will be receiving a tax document in the mail to claim your donations. If you have already received a document just disregard.

Reap What You Sow-Don't Lose Heart!

A stage reading in two short acts,
followed by a Talk Back
Saturday, February 21, 2 PM
St Francis of Assisi Church hall
1049 Chenango Street, Binghamton NY

'Reap' is a play that explores mother-daughter love and respect threatened by the work of the mother, Major Jennifer Golden, a killer drone pilot at the 174th Attack Wing in Syracuse, NY, and her daughter, Ellie, a senior at Fordham University. Major Golden wants Ellie to follow in her footsteps as a career Air Force officer. Ellie is beginning to question her mother's work. Issues of Catholic Social Teaching, Just War, and moral injury rise as mother and daughter struggle to control the division that is beginning to separate them.

Major Jennifer --Lisa Dutcher.
Ellie Golden--Lizzie Hotalen
Talk Back Facilitator--Narani O'Shaughnessy

Free will donation with proceeds to Broome County Catholic Charities

Catherine's Cupboard February Update

First 6 weeks of this year we have served just over 640 people (it was slow due to weather lately). Thank you to those who did make it to mass during the deep freeze to donate to the Faith Formation collection for the Souper Bowl of Caring which benefitted our pantry. The pantry/parish has also gone out into the community a little this year reaching out to the UP warming center/overnight shelter at 42 Chenango St. providing laundry detergent, hats, scarfs and a few blankets. Our abundance of canned goods from Price Chopper food drive has also been shared with Dottie Kitchen (providing meals to shut in's and the "unhoused" staying in local motels) and also to smaller pantries who do not have storage available to handle large donations have received cases of beans, pasta etc from our abundance. This is all to say that neighbors should always try to help neighbors. Thank You for your support which is how we can do this for others.

Eco Resolutions

New Year's has come and gone how are your New Year's Resolutions doing? Did you join the gym on January 2nd and not returned? Why not think about reevaluating your resolutions with eco-friendly resolutions that require no work or sacrifice on our part (or at least very little work or sacrifice):

✝Ditch Fast Fashion-thrift
✝Reduce food waste-meal planning
✝Grow some of your own food
✝Eat more plant based
✝Reduce single use plastic
✝Drive Less
✝Buy Fair Trade Products
✝Air Dry clothes
✝Buy local
✝Compost
✝Use Bamboo TP
✝Buy an eco-friendly water bottle
✝Plant a tree
✝Practice Energy efficiency

It's not too late to resolve to integrate green practices into your resolutions, you can contribute to the health of our planet while inspiring others to follow suit!

IMPORTANT
ATTENTION PARISHIONERS:
Safe Environment Training

All Eucharistic Ministers were **required** to have been Safe Environment Trained as of **Dec 31, 2025**. If you did not receive the mandated trainings call Maria Kirk at the Parish Center.

All choir members, cantors and musicians must be trained by March 31, 2026.
You must register online for this training.

Check the diocesan website for registration and info:
syracusediocese.org/safe-environment

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

February 21st & 22nd, 2026

4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Thalia Brennan
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Calliope Brennan
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	TBD
4:00 Mass	Lector	Joe Sardella
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Anne Smilnak
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Beatrice Grace
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Robert Grace
4:00 Mass	EM Cup	Rosemary Rounds
4:00 Mass	EM Cup	Mike Stricek
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	William Keough
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Daniel Dundon
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Lilly Dundon
10:30 Mass	Lector	Maureen Mizzoni
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Mary Jo Lucas
10:30 Mass	EM Host	David Hanzes
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Kevin Murphy
10:30 Mass	EM Cup	Scott Igler
10:30 Mass	EM Cup	Donna Igler

Children's Liturgy Schedule

February 15th— ONLINE ONLY
February 22nd— Ashley Cook & Maria Kirk
March 1st— Ede & Sarah Blabac
March 8th— Dorene Alecia & Amy Drake

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: 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 considered that laws are made with love? Do you accept God's love through his laws?