

February 19, 2017

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
Sr. Karen Gaube, CSJ
Pastoral Associate
Delores A. Farwell
Parish Administrative Assistant
Maria Kirk
Director of Faith Formation
Joseph Carpenter
Parish Business Administrator
Sue Ekstrom
Parish Media Manager
Edmund Savo
Organist

Office Hours:
7:30 am to 4:30 pm
Monday through Thursday
Friday 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Parish Office: 722-4388
Fax: 722-1336
Faith Formation Office:
722-4177

E-mail:
stfrancisbing@syrdio.org

Website:
www.stfrancisbing.org

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, February 18, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. Richard Clendening by Mary & Dan Fitzgerald

Sunday, February 19, Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People
 11:00 a.m. Ron Guinane by Family

Monday, February 20
 8:00 a.m. Catherine Kowalewski by Nick & Rosalie Roth

Tuesday, February 21
 8:00 a.m. John Dionne by John & Carol Broderick

Wednesday, February 22
 8:00 a.m. Gloria Buonocore by Marge Mangan

Thursday, February 23
 8:00 a.m. Daniel Berry by Arthur Grace

Friday, February 24
NO MASS

Saturday, February 25, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. Joe Sardella by Lucille Marsili

Sunday, February 26, Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People
 11:00 a.m. Ethan Murphy by Diane Yajko & Pat McCoy from Birthright

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.

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 Frank Chabin.

Weekend's Offering (02-12-17)

Regular Envelopes.....	\$4,490.00
Loose Collection.....	\$159.00
Electronic Donation.....	\$1,100.00
Total Collection.....	\$5,749.00

**Thank you to everyone for their donations.
 They are greatly appreciated!**

Catherine's Cupboard Donations

Souper Bowl.....	\$1,694.11
Additional Donations.....	\$3,891.80
Total.....	\$5,586.00

Faith Formation

No Faith Formation this weekend.

Looking Ahead

Faith Formation for K-9 will meet next weekend at 9:30 a.m. in the school. There will be a Rice Bowl prayer service at 10:00a.m. on February 26th in the church. Children will be dismissed back to the school. Look on the Faith Formation section of the church website for more winter updates and information.

LEAP Event

Our Parish Faith Formation LEAP Event will be Sunday, March 5th. Grades K-4 will meet for Lenten Activities, Grades 5-9 will meet for guest speaker, Dave Gamache from Character University. Dave was the keynote speaker at this year's Confirmation Retreat. He is a local person who gives talks around the country to teens and young adults about integrity, character and living a virtuous life. Parents are encouraged to attend this event with their children. If you have children in both age groups, attend with your older child in order to discuss at home.

St. Francis of Assisi Winter Carnival and Planting for the Co-Garden

Our Winter Carnival and planting for the Co-Garden will take place on March 12th, during Faith Formation. This year we will continue to support the homeless by partnering with our Confirmation class. We are asking for items to make up the Homeless Coalition Kits or monetary donations. A flyer will be sent out February 27th with more details. Our whole parish is welcome to attend!

Holy Name Pasta Dinner

Sts. John and Andrew Holy Name Society are holding a pasta dinner on Saturday, February 25th following their 4:00p.m. Mass in their church hall. This fundraiser is in support of the Arthur J. Dwyer, Jr. Scholarship Program. All monies raised will go toward the two \$500 scholarships that are awarded each year to two graduating seniors who are members of Sts. John and Andrew Parish. The menu includes: pasta and sauce, meatballs, tossed salad, bread (courtesy of Cortese Restaurant), as well as dessert and free beverages.
 Donation: \$7/Adult, \$5/Student, \$20/Family

Lent 2017: A Season of Grace

No! You Have not missed Lent— Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 1st!

I go to yoga and every once in a while they offer a program entitled: 40 days to personal revolution. The program includes unlimited yoga, reading & journaling, meditation, and juice cleanse (a form of fasting). This program teaches the participant how to create a balance between mind, body, and soul. To let go of things that no longer serve you and to embrace new healthy habits and a healthy lifestyle. Sounds like Lent doesn't it?

Lent is all about transformation through proper meditation, reading, and fasting. For us as Catholic Christians, Lent is a season of grace, a season to be further transformed into the mystery of Christ. How are you going to answer the invitation to transformation?

Well, you can begin with Ash Wednesday, March 1st. There will be an 8:00a.m. and 12:00p.m. Liturgy with the distribution of ashes. In the evening there will be a prayer service with our neighbors at the Ogden Hillcrest Methodist Church with the distribution of ashes at 7:00p.m. This will be preceded with a simple soup supper in our church hall at 5:30p.m. All are invited.

Speaking of Mass— why not build into your schedule to attend Mass in our chapel at 8:00a.m., Monday—Thursday. Remember when daily Mass was a regular practice for young and old during Lent? Who not join us in our beautiful chapel as often as you can?! Stations of the Cross will be prayed every Lenten Friday at 3:00p.m. in the church.

It's time to dust off the book you received for Christmas! Book Club for A Friendship Like No Other will begin March 7th at 2 PM or 7 PM in the Parish Center. Let's talk about experiencing God's amazing embrace over Lent.

Want to experience the Best Lent Ever?! Well you can by signing up at BestLentEver.com. We all know the things that make us happy, but we don't always do them. Lent is an opportunity to change that. This year we invite you to do something different. Join Dynamic Catholic for Best Lent Ever, a free email program featuring internationally acclaimed speaker and New York Times best-selling author Matthew Kelly. From Ash Wednesday to Easter, you'll get short inspirational videos from Matthew Kelly and personal reflections from Dynamic Catholic team members that will help you identify what stands between you and happiness... and what to do about it.

This can be something to do in your home with your family or join with friends and neighbors to share what you hear and learn. You can join this on your own by going directly to Dynamic Catholic or can find a link on our Parish website and Facebook page. Don't just give up chocolate for Lent but engage in what can make this your Best Lent Ever.

Lent is also our time to encounter and to cultivate a spirit of global solidarity. Operation Rice Bowl is a way to put our faith in action. Rice Bowls will be in the bulletin next week to use in your home and to learn more about the mission of the gospel and the witness of the church in areas around the world.

Also, Next week the Lenten Black Books will be available for your personal prayer during Lent! Don't let this season of Lent go by and not be transformed by the discipline of prayer, fasting, and charity. Let us not just experience a personal transformation but may we be transformed as a community of faith!

Ethan Murphy Memorial Service Thank You!

The entire family of Ethan Murphy is grateful beyond adequate words for the love and support shown to us at Ethan's memorial service and throughout our journey with Ethan as he bravely battled his fight with Osteosarcoma. To Father Tim for his prayers for Ethan and the strength he gave and continues to give to us – Thank you. To Ed Savo and the entire choir for the music that made the memorial service uplifting – Thank you. To Marge Mangan for her guidance and patience throughout the planning of the service - thank you. To Deacon Steve, Dom, Peyton and Michael for generously adding your presence and service to this memorial – Thank you. To the Bereavement Committee for giving us a means to greet our friends and provide nourishment to them – Thank you. To the members of the parish who prayed with us and continued to follow Ethan's treatments – Thank you. Our journey to find peace continues. We know that we will always find support from all of you at St. Francis of Assisi.

Sanctuary Prayer

Who offered the stable for the birth of a child?
Who offered refuge in Egypt when the family
had to flee?

Who welcomed them there?

Who will offer sanctuary to the immigrants in
our
communities?

As they face roundups, as their human dignity is
ignored?

Who will welcome and protect them,
Who will choose love and inclusion over fear?

Who of us will recognize
A holy family, a mother, a child?

Who of us will remember Christ's words:
"I was a stranger and you welcomed me;

What you do for the least of these,
You do for me." Amen.

—Jane Deren, Ph.D.

Altar Server Training

There will be an altar server training for new servers on Saturday, February 25th from 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. Any child who has received his or her First Communion is welcome to become a server. If you have any questions, please call Deacon Steve at 648-215.

Catherine's Cupboard Volunteer Schedule

Transportation

Week of February 19th — Karen Dotson

Week of February 26th — Michelle Warne

Shelving (Mondays)

February 20th — C. Woodruff & M. Ryder

February 27th — E. & K. Corcoran

Distribution

February 21st — R. & P. Scales, K. Benowski, M. DeNinis, P. Peters

A Note from Sister Karen

My dear friends, after much prayerful reflection, I have decided that it is time for me to retire from my ministry here as Pastoral Associate. After 25 years here and after 40 years altogether in this beautiful ministry, I believe God is calling me to begin a new chapter in my life. (Maybe my turning 75 last month had something to do with it, too!)

In July I will be moving to our Provincial House in Latham, outside of Albany. There I hope to be of service, in even some small ways, to our Sisters living there.

I will truly miss all of you here. Even though Binghamton is my hometown, I have always felt especially "at home" with you. You have inspired and supported me in so many ways. Your loving responses to our many requests for help are always given with such generosity. I am confident that this will continue.

We have shared many joys and some sorrows, both personally and as a parish family. Be assured that you will always have a special place in my heart and in my prayers.

6th Annual Hillcrest Community St. Patrick's Day Parade

To Benefit US for Kids

Saturday, March 11th

12:00p.m. — Line-up

1:00p.m. — Kick-off

Parade begins at the Hillcrest Post 1194 American Legion down Chenango Street and ends at My Uncle's Place (120 East Arterial Highway)

Knights of Columbus 11403

Save the Date

March 11th, 2017

Hooley in Hillcrest

7:00 P.M. — 11:00 P.M.

St. Francis of Assisi Parish Gym

Requested Donation:

\$15/person (in advance) \$18/person (at the door)

Tickets available in advance from any Knights of Columbus member or call the Rectory at 722-4388.

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 May 5, 2017.

February Fundraising for Food Pantry

In 2016, 1200 families visited us when we opened the 1st and 3rd Tuesday each month. So many times we are operating on the edge. Our budget last year ran over \$25,000 in purchased food or personal care items for these visitors.

#1 February 12th and 19th weekends BONTON coupons booklets will be available. \$5.00 a booklet gives you coupons to purchase items in the store, February 23—25th. We keep the entire \$5.00 donations, plus get a bonus check from the store (last year it was over \$800 total received).

#2 Envelopes are attached to the flyer or in the pews February 12th—19th or use your own during the month to drop in a cash or check (tax deductible) or go online at your own convenience.

Confirmation Class Collection for Homeless

The Confirmation Class is collecting items for Binghamton Homeless Coalition kits between now and April 2nd.

These are the needed items:

Bottles of Water or Gatorade, Insulated Socks, Thermal Underwear (L/XL), Warm Gloves, Warm Hats, Hand/Foot Warmers, Ponchos, Toothbrushes, Wipes, Bus Pass, Fast Food Gift Card, Clif Bars, Cracker Sandwiches, Oranges, Ziploc Bags. All clothing must be men's sizes, since women can wear them, too, and must be new.

Cash donations are also gratefully accepted.

We have a box just inside the front door of the school on Sundays during Faith Formation. There is also a box at the church and another at the Parish Center. THANK YOU to all the parishioners who have been contributing items and cash to our collection! We greatly appreciate your generosity! We were able to provide 7 complete kits and 17 partial kits to the Homeless Coalition on January 20. They told us they could fill in the partial kits with the supplies remaining from what we donated in December. And, our timing was good since they were doing the point-in-time surveys, when they go out to where homeless people are located to identify them, bring them kits, and encourage them to come to shelters where other resources are available. This parish is amazing! Thank you!!



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

February 25th & 26th, 2017

4:00 P.M. Mass

Lector	Catherine Shafer
EM Host	Dc. Steve
EM Host	Barb Brozovic
EM Host	Kelly Benjamin
EM Cup	Terry Hanifin
EM Cup	Dom Lomonaco
EM Cup	Judy Murphy
EM Cup	John Pierce
Altar Server	Dominic Lomonaco
Altar Server	Mikey Schultz
Altar Server	Logan Lomonaco

8:00 A.M. Mass

Lector	Maureen Mizzoni
EM Host	Dc. Steve
EM Host	Denise Baxter
EM Host	Tim Vaverchak
EM Cup	Mary Ellen Vaverchak
EM Cup	Ede Blabac
EM Cup	Debbie Davis
EM Cup	Steve Baxter
Altar Server	Jonah Rice
Altar Server	Andrew Rice
Altar Server	Brigid Birtch

11:00 A.M. Mass

Lector	Mary Lou Ekstrom
EM Host	Dc. Steve
EM Host	David Gill
EM Host	Chris Gill
EM Cup	Rose O'Neil
EM Cup	Jules Furrer
EM Cup	Sue Jones
EM Cup	Jim Lewis
Altar Server	John Michael Frissora
Altar Server	Brendan Heaney
Altar Server	Zachary Carr

Question of the Week

Question for Children: What can you do at home or at school to show that you follow Jesus' Commandments?

Question for Youth: Do you think Jesus was serious when he said to love your enemies? Why or why not?

Question for Adults: Have you ever told someone to do something for his/her own well being? Do you accept God's laws in the same spirit of love and concern?

END OF BULLETIN

CHURCH NAME: St. Francis of Assisi
CITY, STATE: Binghamton, NY
FILE NAME: 06-168
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Contact: Delores A. Farwell or Sue Ekstrom

Comments:

Bulletin copy for **February 19th, 2016**

Deliver 600 copies to St. Francis of Assisi.