

February 19, 2023

# St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 13901

## February 22nd

# Ash Wednesday

8AM: Liturgy & Ashes

12Noon: Liturgy & Ashes

7PM: Prayer Service at Ogden Hillcrest UMC & Ashes

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@syrдио.org

### Website:

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

Please go online to [stfrancisbing.org](http://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](https://www.facebook.com/stfrancisbing)



**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

**Monday, February 20**

12:00 p.m. Rick Callahan by Maureen & Tim Roberts

**Tuesday, February 21**

8:00 a.m. Howard Yasharian by St. Francis Special Sunshine Committee

**Wednesday, February 22, Ash Wednesday (ALL Liturgies held in Church)**

8:00 a.m. Mike Davis by the Binghamton CSJ Associates

12:00 p.m. Dick Murphy by the Ramsay Family

7:00 p.m. Prayer Service @ Ogden Methodist Church

**Thursday, February 23**

8:00 a.m. Donald Walls by Patrick, Mary Ann, Joey Dorner

**Friday, February 24**

**NO MASS**

**Saturday, February 25, Vigil of Sunday**

4:00 p.m. Gloria Banek by Virginia Minihan

**Sunday, February 26, First Sunday of Lent**

10:30 a.m. Mary Savo by Kathy & Glen Tait

**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**

No Faith Formation this weekend.

Faith Formation next week February 26th for K-9 Opening Prayer in the Parish Hall for everyone.

**Looking Ahead:**

† First Eucharist Rite of Belonging Sunday, February 26th at 10:30 AM Mass.

**LENTEN VIDEO SERIES**

St. Francis of Assisi Parish invites you to examine social/structural sin with our Lenten Video Series.

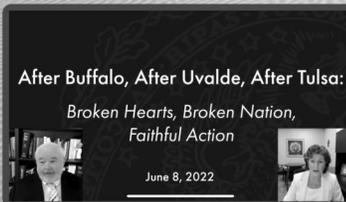
Themes include; Environmentalism, Poverty, Racism, and Violence.



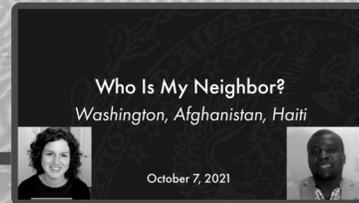
February 28th



March 14th



March 28th



April 4th

Screenings at 2:00PM & 7:00PM  
St. Francis of Assisi Parish Hall  
(1049 Chenango Street, Binghamton)

For more information visit us online at [stfrancisbingo.org](http://stfrancisbingo.org)

**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!

**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, 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



**Servant of God Mother Mary Elizabeth Lange** (1784-1882) was born Elizabeth Lange, a native of the Caribbean, and believed to be Cuban born of Haitian descent. She was the foundress and first Superior General of the Oblate Sisters of Providence (1829-1832), the first religious congregation of African American women in the history of the Catholic Church. On July 2, 1829, Elizabeth and three other women professed their vows and became the Oblate Sisters of Providence with the goal of educating and evangelizing African Americans. They educated youth and provided a home for orphans. Freed slaves were educated and at times admitted into the congregation. They nursed the terminally ill during the cholera epidemic of 1832, sheltered the elderly, and served as domestics at St. Mary’s Seminary. Mother Mary Lange practiced faith to an extraordinary degree. It was her deep faith – in close union with Jesus – which enabled her to persevere against all odds. She lived through disappointment and opposition until God called her home in 1882 at the St. Frances Convent in Baltimore, Maryland.

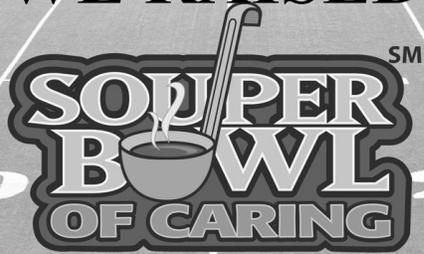


**Venerable Henriette Delille (1813-1862)** was mixed race and lived her entire life in New Orleans. She was determined to help those in need. Henriette was also a person who suffered as she made her way through life, and she bore many crosses. She taught those around her that sanctity can be attained in following the path of Jesus. It was in this manner that she dealt with her troubles to achieve her goals. Some of the troubles Henriette met were the resistance to the idea of a black religious congregation; the lack of finances to do the work; the taunts and disbelief of people in her mission; the lack of support from both the Church and civil authority; and poor health. However, Henriette practiced heroic virtue. She had faith, lived in hope, and practiced love. She had compassion, was forgiving, and merciful. She believed in justice and was not afraid to do what was right in God’s eyes. In 1842, she founded the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Family. Henriette died 20 years later on November 17, 1862. Her funeral was held at St. Augustine Church. Her obituary stated, “. . . Miss Henriette Delille had for long years consecrated herself totally to God without reservation to the instruction of the ignorant and principally to the slave.”

## Catherine's Cupboard Distribution Volunteer Schedule

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

# WE RAISED



## \$1,423.50

### 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,

[stfrancis.org/scholarship-forms-and-contests](http://stfrancis.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.**

*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@svrdio.org](mailto:Mkirk@svrdio.org) for more info!

**COST IS FREE!**

**Register here:**



SCAN ME

## **\*\*HUGE ANNOUNCEMENT:\*\*** **SCHOOL BUILDING SOLD**

There have been a lot of changes at St. Francis over the last 12 months and the beat goes on. Last Monday, February 13th, our school building was sold to Greater Opportunities for Broome and Chenango, Inc. The sales price for the building was \$310,000 with the net proceeds being \$270,000. The money will not be available to the parish immediately, but will be placed in an escrow account during the Chapter 11 proceedings. This, in some ways, is a bittersweet moment for many of us at St. Francis. The school has played an important role in the lives of St. Francis parishioners for decades. The school was established in 1957 under the direction of Msgr. John Phelan. The school was actually the first church, which was renovated into what became the school building. In 1960 and 61, an addition was made to the building and the gymnasium /auditorium was built. When the school opened, it housed grades K – 6 and was staffed by the Dominican Sisters and lay personnel. In 1971, the Dominican Sisters were withdrawn and 6 Felician Sisters replaced them. The Felician Sisters left in 1988 leaving a lay faculty and lay principals. There were hundreds of children who graduated from “St. Catherine’s School” and went on to have successful careers and wonderful families. Sadly, with an enrollment of only 60 students, the school was closed in 1999. Over the last 23 years the school has been the temporary home to several different groups. Chenango Valley Schools have rented the building on 2 separate occasions during some of their own school renovations. Binghamton City Schools occupied the school for more than 4 years after the flood in 2011. Most recently, Greater Opportunities Head Start operation has occupied a portion of the building and after a year or so they made the decision to purchase the building. The school has also been home to many CYO and community association basketball games and, of course, The Hooley in Hillcrest. The mission of Greater Opportunities for Broome and Chenango, Inc. is to educate, advocate, and empower individuals and families to improve the quality of their lives through the development of self-reliance, while promoting a culture of people working together to help themselves, one another, and their community. These objectives fit very nicely with our own mission at St. Francis. Greater Opportunities will continue with their Head Start program, with hopefully an expansion to house an Early Head Start program serving pregnant mothers and babies. Greater Opportunities also plans on housing several of their administrative programs in the building on the upper two floors. The electric service will be switched from St. Francis to Greater Ops and they have already begun installing new security cameras on the interior and exterior of the building. There will be some significant renovations to the building beginning with the remodeling of the 2 bathrooms on the ground floor, followed by a project to air condition the building. St. Francis will continue to have limited access to rooms 103 & 104 on the ground floor for Faith Formation. Security for the children is very important and, that being the case, access to the school will be extremely limited. We are very happy to welcome Greater Opportunities to the Hillcrest community. They have been great tenants and their presence in the school building will bring vitality back to the building. Please welcome our new neighbors!

**St. Francis of Assisi Lectors,  
Eucharistic Ministers & Altar Servers**  
**February 25th & 26th, 2023**

4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Thalia Brennan
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Calliope Brennan
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Mackenzie Murphy
4:00 Mass	Lector	Mike Stricek
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Betsy A Shields
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Anne Smilnak
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Carol Danoski

10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Sydney Keough
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	William Keough
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Mary Bush
10:30 Mass	Lector	1st Communion Kids
10:30 Mass	EM Host	David Hanzes
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Scott Iglar
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Donna Iglar

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

**10:30 AM Mass**

**February 19: ONLINE ONLY**

**February 26: K. or L. White & 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:** 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  
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FILE NAME: 06-168  
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Comments:  
Bulletin copy for **February 19th, 2023**

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