

February 25, 2024

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
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

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

**Saturday, February 24, Vigil of Sunday**

4:00 p.m. Sophia & Joseph Patsko by the Danoski Family

Sunday, February 25, Second Sunday of Lent

10:30 a.m. Kerri Hamilton by St. Francis Special Sunshine Committee

Monday, February 26

12:00 p.m. Ronald Antonyak by Family

Tuesday, February 27

8:00 a.m. Norbert Vaughn by Family

Wednesday, February 28

12:00 p.m. Lorenzo Altadonna by Family

Thursday, February 29

8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People

Friday, March 1**NO MASS****Saturday, March 2, Vigil of Sunday**

4:00 p.m. Daniel R. Donoghue by Robert Beck

Sunday, March 3, Third Sunday of Lent

10:30 a.m. Betty Parasiliti by 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 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**

Weekend's Offering (02-18-24)

Regular Envelopes.....	\$3,125.00
Loose Collection.....	\$979.00
Electronic Collection.....	\$1,960.00
Total Collection.....	\$6,064.00

*Thank you for your generosity!***FAITH FORMATION****Faith Formation Grades K-9 at 9 AM in the Parish Hall****Looking Ahead:**

† Saturday March 2nd 9:30AM—12Noon First Eucharist Mini-Retreat in the Parish Hall.

THANK YOU!**St. Francis of Assisi's 2024 Collection**

raised:

\$800

Thanks to your efforts this year, more dollars have been raised, more lives have been changed, and the nation has seen the impact of people working together to help those in need. Thank you for working to transform the time around the Super Bowl into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.

**February 11, 2024**

Alison Reese
Alison Reese
 Executive Director
 Tackle Hunger: Home of the
 Souper Bowl of Caring

**Confirmation Service Retreat**

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.



Growing Community Roots

Eight Associates of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet (CSJ) from St. Francis of Assisi Parish are working on an endeavor in Kenya! They're collaborating with the non-profit Growing Community Roots (GCR), established 10 years ago by CSJ Sisters and Associates. GCR helps Kenyan students in the Homa Bay area, fulfill their hopes and dreams! GCR supports children- by meeting the basic needs identified in the region's schools in 3 very important ways:

1. GCR installs water catchment systems that provide safe water for drinking and bathing.
2. GCR builds new latrines that offer privacy.
3. GCR also establishes community gardens ensuring students have nutritious meals at school and plant tree farms which help address the area's deforestation problem.

In 2024, GCR plans on addressing issues at 2 additional schools (14 thus far!) and asks for your help. There will be a special collection for Growing Community Roots, at the weekend Masses on March 9 & 10, 2024. During this Lenten season we grow closer to God by helping the poor and caring for our common home-supporting the planting of trees and gardens.

GCR website: www.growingcommunityroots.org

Lent 2024

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 are available in the church.

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 is 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.

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will take place **every Friday of Lent**. Stations will **start at 12:00 NOON** in the church and **followed by a Communion Service**.

Join us! All are welcome!

CRS Rice Bowl: 2nd Sunday in Lent Overcoming Hunger

In Akwangagwel, Uganda, the climate is very hot and dry. Farmers in this region depend heavily on the rainy season for a successful harvest. But lately—due to the changing climate—the rain has been coming later than it used to and is more inconsistent. Sometimes, when it does rain, it causes flooding and ruins the crops. Learn how Adolf and Florence have taken the matter into their own hands, implementing new farming techniques they learned from a Catholic Relief Services program to improve their farm and fight against hunger in their community. To learn more and read this week's Story of Hope visit crsricebowl.org

Catherine's Cupboard Distribution Volunteer Schedule

March 5th: R. Rounds, G. Donahue, and K. & T. Barnhart

Catherine's Cupboard Will Take Your Gift Cards!

Do you have a few dollars left over on some of your gift cards? Catherine's Cupboard can use them! If you have gift card dollars left over from a store that sells pantry items, we'll take it! Lighten your wallet and do something good with that card that you keep forgetting to use or still have a few bucks on. We'll put it toward adding items to our food pantry to serve those in need in the community. (Drop them off at Parish Center 1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton NY)



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
10:30 AM Sunday
Masses
Please call the parish
center at 607-722-4388
to sign up!*

URGENT

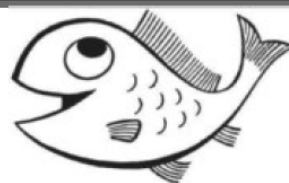
2nd Sunday in Lent: Creation Care Tip

This Sunday's readings speak of sacrifice—Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his son Isaac for God and God's sacrificing of his son Jesus for our sake. In this time of Lent, consider making a sacrifice that is ultimately helpful to others and the rest of creation. Giving up sugary treats may help you lose weight, but does it help anyone else? Whatever you sacrifice, see if you can turn it into a blessing for someone else; for example, if you give up eating out at a restaurant, give away the money you saved to someone who needs it more than you do.

2nd Sunday in Lent: Justice Challenge

Sometimes we think about making big plans for Lenten sacrificing, only to fall behind with work, family, and other responsibilities. We find ourselves in the Second Week of Lent with no commitment to better prayer lives, doing good deeds, or practicing acts of self-denial. But it is never too late. Catholic Relief Services offers a great resource to parishes and families for praying, fasting and charitable giving—all in one simple project. What is so great about this project, known as Operation Rice Bowl (ORB), is that it makes all the right connections. When you put the money you would have spent on that coffee you crave or a meal out into your Rice Bowl box, you participate in Jesus' sacrifice. CRS provides prayers to accompany your giving. And it uses the money you would have spent on yourself to help people in need across the world. Participating in ORB is an act of solidarity—standing with your brothers and sisters as one human family. Your challenge this week is to adopt Operation Rice Bowl. Give up the extra energy drink, candy bar, movie, or trip to the mall. Put the money in your Rice Bowl, knowing it will be sent to CRS. You will be walking with Jesus while making a difference in the lives of others.

*Lenten Fish
Dinners at St.
Patrick's*



**Fridays of Lent: Feb 23rd &
Mar 1st, 8th, 15th & 22nd**

Dinner includes: breaded or plain baked haddock fish, coleslaw, mac & cheese, dessert. **Order ahead at 607.723.3239.** Cost is \$15.00 This year's proceeds will go toward a memorial statue on honor of Barbara Donnelly. **Thank you for your support!**

For Potential Godparents and Sponsors for Baptisms or Confirmation

Anyone looking to be a Godparent or Sponsor to a Confirmation Candidate MUST be a registered member of St. Francis of Assisi to be able to get a letter of certification. This is the only way that the Church can verify you are a practicing Catholic. Please call Delores at the Parish Center (722-4388) for questions.

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

March 2nd & 3rd, 2024

4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Logan Kliment
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	TBD
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	TBD
4:00 Mass	Lector	Joe Carpenter
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Marge Mangan
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Larry Koch
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	Abraham Watkins
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Alexander Watkins
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	TBD
10:30 Mass	Lector	Virginia Thompson
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Maureen Mizzoni
10:30 Mass	EM Host	
10:30 Mass	EM Host	
10:30 Mass	EM Cup	Ede Blabac
10:30 Mass	EM Cup	Shirley McCray

Children's Liturgy of the Word Schedule

February 25– Ede and Sarah Blabac

March 3– Ede and Sarah Blabac

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 sign up form (on table in the back of the church) and drop it in a collection basket.

Question of the Week

Question for Children: Name or draw a picture of a time you knew that Jesus was with you.

Question for Youth: The disciples had a very intense experience of Jesus on the mountain. Have you ever had a "mountain top" experience? What was it like for you?

Question for Adults: In what ways does Jesus speak today, ways in which you can truly "listen to him?"

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 25th, 2024**

Deliver 300 copies to St. Francis of Assisi.