

February 26, 2023

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 13901

LENTEN VIDEO SERIES (#1)

February 28th



Screenings
at 2:00PM
& 7:00PM

St. Francis of Assisi
Parish Hall
(1049 Chenango St.,
Binghamton)

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

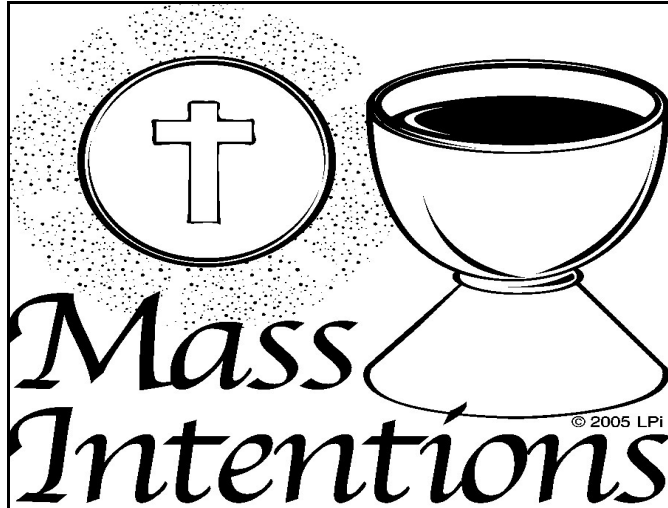
Website:

www.stfrancisbing.org

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 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

Monday, February 27

12:00 p.m. Liturgy for the People

Tuesday, February 28

8:00 a.m. Lorenzo Altadonna by Family

Wednesday, March 1

12:00 p.m. Vita Mannino by Family

Thursday, March 2

NO MASS

Friday, March 3

NO MASS

Saturday, March 4, Vigil of Sunday

4:00 p.m. Kathy Tinder by Kathy Dwyer & Friends

Sunday, March 5, Second Sunday of Lent

10:30 a.m. Liturgy for the People

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 (02-19-23)

Regular Envelopes.....	\$3,098.00
Loose Collection.....	\$202.00
Electronic Collection.....	\$1,711.00
Total Collection.....	\$5,011.00

Faith Formation

Faith Formation this week for grades K-9 with opening prayer in the Parish Hall for everyone.

Looking Ahead:

- † Sunday, March 12th Lenten Faith Formation Program for grades K-9, parents are invited to attend.
- † Sunday, March 19th after 10:30 Mass, First Eucharist Sharing Meal and Pew Banner project. Please be sure to bring personal mementos for the pew banner that will serve as your family pew marker at First Eucharist. Sharing lunch will be after pew banners are completed.
- † Sunday, March 19th NO Faith Formation at St Francis for grades 7-8-9. There will be a mini-retreat at St. Patrick's for everyone in these grades from 1PM--5PM, which includes mass at 4PM. Please refer to the flyer that was sent home and emailed for registration information.



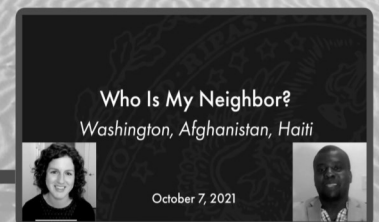
February 28th



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

ATTENTION: Lectors, EMs & Altar Servers

It is time again to submit your dates of unavailability for the months of April, May, and June. If there are weekends when you are not available to Lector, Eucharistic Minister, or Altar Serve, please let us know. Please call Ed and Cindy White at 607-648-2784 or by cell 607-206-3469 **BEFORE MARCH 13TH!** Thank You!

Stations of the Cross will take place every Friday at 3:00PM throughout Lent

Lent 2023

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 period of grace is a time for sacrifice and spiritual reflection preparing us for the 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. 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. Lent is 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 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.
- **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.

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 for more.

Black History Month



Venerable Fr. Augustus Tolton (1854-1897) was the first U.S. Roman Catholic priest publicly known to be black when he was ordained in 1886. A former slave who was baptized and reared Catholic, Tolton formally studied in Rome. He was ordained in Rome on Easter Sunday at the Archbasilica of St. John Lateran. Fr. Tolton led the development and construction of St. Monica’s Catholic Church as a black “National Parish Church”, which was completed in 1893. Tolton’s success at ministering to black Catholics quickly earned him national attention within the Catholic hierarchy. “Good Father Gus,” as many called him, was known for his eloquent sermons, his beautiful singing voice, and his talent for playing the accordion. He is the subject of the 1973 biography from Slave to Priest by Sister Caroline Hemesath.



Servant of God Julia Greeley (1833 and 1848-1918) was born into slavery in Hannibal, Missouri sometime between 1833 and 1848. Freed by Missouri’s Emancipation Act in 1865, Julia subsequently earned her keep by serving white families in Missouri, Colorado, Wyoming, and New Mexico—though mostly in the Denver area. Julia entered the Catholic Church at Sacred Heart Parish in Denver in 1880 and was an outstanding supporter of all the parish. The Jesuits who ran the parish considered her the most enthusiastic promoter of devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus they had ever seen. Every month she visited on foot every fire station in Denver and delivered literature of the Sacred Heart League to the firemen, Catholics and non-Catholics alike. A daily communicant, Julia had a rich devotion to the Blessed Sacrament and the Blessed Virgin and continued her prayers while working. She joined the Secular Franciscan Order in 1901 and was active in it till her death in 1918. As part of the Cause for Canonization, Julia’s mortal remains were transferred to Denver’s Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception on June 7, 2017.

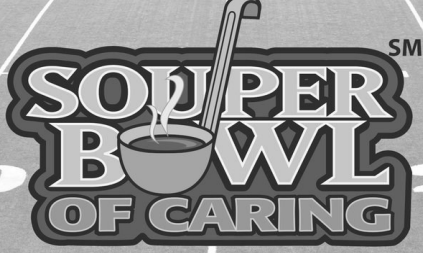


Sr. Thea Bowman, FSPA (1937-1990) was a self-proclaimed, “old folks’ child.” Bowman was the only child born to middle-aged parents, Dr. Theon Bowman, a physician, and Mary Esther Bowman, a teacher. At birth, she was given the name Bertha Elizabeth Bowman. She was born in 1937 and reared in Canton, Mississippi. As a child, she converted to Catholicism through the inspiration of the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration and the Missionary Servants of the Most Holy Trinity who were her teachers and pastors at Holy Child Jesus Church and School in Canton. During her short lifetime, many people considered her a religious sister undeniably close to God and who lovingly invited others to encounter the presence of God in their lives. She is acclaimed as a “holy woman” in the hearts of those who knew and loved her and continue to seek her intercession for guidance and healing.

Catherine's Cupboard Distribution Volunteer Schedule

March 7th— B. Grace, R. O'Neil, and R. Rounds

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,

stfrancising.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@syrdio.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**

March 4th & 5th, 2023

4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Kathryn White
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Logan Kliment
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	TBD
4:00 Mass	Lector	Mike Gaetani
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Mary Russik
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Jan Pandich
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Ed White
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	Anne Wolanski
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Maureen Mizzoni
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Keith Zulko

Children's Liturgy of the Word Schedule

10:30 AM Mass

February 26: K. or L. White & Amy Drake

March 5: Ede & Sarah Blabac

March 12: Cindy & Kathryn or Lauren White

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 do you plan
to do during Lent this year as a way of
showing you want to grow closer to Jesus?

Question for Youth: Jesus was tempted
by the devil. How are you tempted? What
helps you resist these temptations?

Question for Adults: When you yourself
pause to be alone with God, what distracts
and prevents you from dwelling in that?
Busyness? The demands of life? TV? The
internet?

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 26th, 2023**

Deliver 300 copies to St. Francis of Assisi.