

March 17, 2024

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 13901

Happy St. Patrick's Day

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@syrдио.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.

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Channel:**



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@stfrancisbing**



Saturday, March 16, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. Anthony Versace, Jr. by Mr. & Mrs. Joseph D'Angelis

Sunday, March 17, Fifth Sunday of Lent
 10:30 a.m. Kerri Hamilton by Marge Mangan

Monday, March 18
 12:00 p.m. James S. Myrick by Ed & Kay Corcoran

Tuesday, March 19
 8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People

Wednesday, March 20
 12:00 p.m. Michael Pratt by St. Francis Special Sunshine Committee

Thursday, March 21
 8:00 a.m. Donald Walls by John Sharak

Friday, March 22
NO MASS

Saturday, March 23, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. Daniel Mc Garry by the Bucci Family

Sunday, March 24, Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
 10:30 a.m. Madeline Benke by Jules Furrer

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 (03-03-24)

Regular Envelopes.....	\$6,700.00
Loose Collection.....	\$300.00
Electronic Collection.....	\$2,455.00
Total Collection.....	\$9,455.00

Thank you for your generosity!

FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation today at 9:00AM for Grades K-9

Looking Ahead:

- † Rice Bowl closing Prayer Service at the start of Faith Formation on March 24th in the Parish Hall.
- † First Eucharist Sharing Meal and Pew Banner Project Sunday, April 14th after class.
- † Area Wide Grade 7-8-9 Gathering on April 21st from 1:00—5:00PM at Our Lady of Good Counsel. (see flyer)

ALL 7, 8, & 9TH GRADERS ARE INVITED TO

AREA WIDE TEEN GATHERING

EVENT LOCATION:

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL
 701 W. MAIN ST.
 ENDICOTT, NY

JESUS SAID:
 "I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD. A GOOD SHEPHERD LAYS DOWN HIS LIFE FOR THE SHEEP".
 JOHN 10: 11

SPEAKER FOOD FUN FAITH ACTIVITIES LIFETEEN MASS

REGISTER BY 4.15.2024

QR CODE

HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/BLPIZZEDDKULYTEM6

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.

Update: Confirmation Plastic Collection

Thank you for all who have been bringing in your soft plastic. When this initiative started in late October we thought it would take a year to collect 1,000 pounds to be able to acquire a bench from TREX, but we met the goal sometime ago. Recently, I was told that we are at 1,700 lbs. with the collection. Nora Bush has been in touch with Trex to see where we go from here. We are still collecting specific lightweight plastics (see the collection bin for details) so continue to bring them in. Our collection of plastic may look large but consider these facts...

Americans throw away 2.5 million plastic bottles every hour.

(Recycle Across America)

Of the approximately 6.3 billion tons of plastic waste that has been generated, around 9% has been recycled, 12% incinerated, and 79% was accumulated in landfills or the natural environment.

(Science Advances)

If current production and waste management trends continue, roughly 12 billion tons of plastic waste will be in landfills or in the natural environment by 2050.

(Science Advances)

Everywhere we look in our culture you will find plastic. It surrounds our food, it makes up our technology and it is a standard element in our household items. Unfortunately, it is also overflowing from our landfills, floating in our waters and polluting our soil. More and more, you can even find it in our own bodies and those of other living creatures. There have even been traces of plastic found in breast milk. Despite the fact that we have learned the harms of plastics, we are steadily increasing our production of the material and integrating it into more and more items. Plastic is everywhere!

However, making good choices and doing your part to limit and recycle plastics can make a difference and sets a good example for others to follow suit. By recycling our materials, we create a healthier planet for ourselves and more importantly, for future generations.

**✝ Palm Sunday Penance Service
March 24th at 4:00PM
St. Francis of Assisi Church**

CRS Rice Bowl: Embodying the Love of Christ By Caring For One Another

Reflect on your Lenten journey thusfar: What have you learned from our global family members in Uganda, El Salvador and Indonesia? How does the Eucharist unite us with our sisters and brothers around the world? Consider how Christ is present in Adolf and Florence, Sandra and Santos, and Evita. Visit crsricebowl.org to read this week's Story of Hope.

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross take place every Friday during Lent. Stations start at 12:00 NOON in the church and are **followed by a Communion Service**.
Join us! All are welcome!

Prayer for Gaza

In the land so many have called Holy,
Fresh blood is seeping into the ground in Gaza.
Unarmed men, women, and children caught
In the cycle of violence John Paul II lamented,
Reminding us only peaceful means
Can bring peace; violence is always a defeat.
With new images of death, of so many wounded,
We lament again that this conflict still continues,
As it has for seven decades, turning neighbors
Into enemies, taking land, burning ancient olive trees
So the dispossessed have no homes to return to
And live in unending, impoverished displacement.
Christ, who walked where this bloodshed is happening,
We cry out to you for the end to this violence:
Grant that our voices are heard as we petition
The international community, the Israelis, and the
Palestinians
To practice ways of peace in the land of the prophets.
May the weeping end and may new life be possible
From the ruins of old stones. Amen.

Christians Against Genocide

Join fellow Christians repenting against the sin of genocide!

March 18, 2024, 9:45 am

Start at Congressman Molinara's office (49 Court Street)
Processing to Senator Schumer's office (15 Henry Street)

We are calling our fellow Christians to join in a public liturgy of repentance for the sin of genocide in Gaza. This liturgy will take place at the federal building at 15 Henry Street in Binghamton. Join fellow Christians to call for an end to the ongoing genocide in Palestine, including 30,000+ deaths, the long history of Israeli apartheid in Gaza and the West Bank, Christian Zionism, and the continuing US policy of military support for Israel. Please bring symbols of your Christian faith!

5th Sunday in Lent: Justice Challenge

March 22 is World Water Day. The foundation of all Catholic social teaching is respect for the life and dignity of every human person. Fundamental to both life itself and life lived with dignity is access to clean water. Around the world, millions of people suffer because of a scarcity of water. Your challenge this week is two-fold. First, examine how your family uses water. Do you conserve it as a precious and God-given resource which is not unlimited? Pay attention to how much water you waste (e.g., letting water run while you are brushing your teeth instead of just using it to get your toothbrush wet at the beginning and to rinse at the end). Then on Saturday, discuss how you can limit your use of water and commit to it—at least for the rest of the Lenten season. Secondly, decide on one way you can support people in areas of the world which do not have clean water. You might want to research particular programs of Catholic Relief Services which help people dig wells or purify contaminated water. Then make a donation to help people receive life-giving water.

Catherine's Cupboard Distribution Volunteer Schedule

March 19th: M. Lyons, M. Mizzoni & Emma, and D. Dobish

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.**

"Unique" Spring Sale

Samaritan House will be having the "UNIQUE" Spring Sale on **Friday April 5, 2024 from 9 AM to 2PM and Saturday April 6, 2024 from 9 AM to 2 PM.** The sale will be held at **St. Mary of the Assumption Recreation Center** located at 152 Hawley Street Binghamton. We thank you all for your support in efforts to assist those in our community that are less fortunate.

Chenango Bridge Firehouse Fundraiser

**Monday, March 25th—Saturday, March 30th
11:00AM—7:00PM**

**Firehouse Sub Truck Fundraiser for Chenango
Bridge Fire Company Station 1 (13 Kattelville Rd)**

**Non-meat options available for Lent!
Please stop by to support this fundraiser!**

PLEASE TELL US THE NAMES & ADDRESSES OF SHUT-INS, WE WOULD LOVE TO REACH OUT! CALL DELORES AT THE PARISH CENTER (607)722-4388 TO LET US KNOW! THANK YOU!

CATHERINE'S CUPBOARD

PANTRY UPDATE:

In April, we celebrate another year of feeding others. The pantry was started by members of our parish over 20 years ago and has grown to serve thousands of people over time. Currently, we are helping 70+ families every time we are open, coming from all over our county and also from various countries around the world. Some are homeless (living along the riverbanks or local motels as shelters) others come between work hours to stretch a pay check and a third are retired living on their Social Security check. None of this would be possible if not for YOU, our parishioners and the local community. THANK YOU for supporting this parish program, we are independent and not connected with CHOW or Catholic Charities, thus are able to feed those in need when they need help without questions. Our motto is simple "IF THEY ASK, WE GIVE"

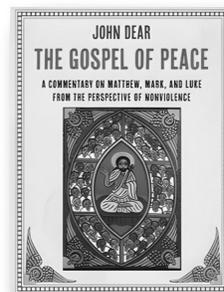
SPRING CLEAN OUT:

We will be collecting working small household appliances to give away on April 16th. They can be dropped off on or after April 3rd to the pantry area (Parish Center) only.

An Evening with JOHN DEAR

on his new book:

"THE GOSPEL OF PEACE"



Peacemaker, author, and Nobel Peace Prize Nominee, Father John Dear, will be with us to talk about and sign copies of his new book, his life's work: *The Gospel of Peace: A Commentary on Matthew, Mark, and Luke from the Perspective of Nonviolence*. It is the first ever commentary on the Synoptic Gospels from the perspective of active nonviolence in the tradition of Gandhi and Dr. King. In this original work, Fr. John walks us through every line of the three synoptic Gospels pointing out Jesus' practice and teachings on nonviolence, peace, and universal love and invites us to follow him. Join us!

DATE/TIME: THURSDAY, APRIL 4TH @ 7:00PM

LOCATION: ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI—BINGHAMTON

CONTACT: FR. TIM TAUGHER 607-722-4388

For further information, visit www.johndear.org and www.beatitudescenter.org where he is the executive director and offers online programs.

Are You Hurting in Your Marriage?

Has your marriage become troubled or stressed, unloving, or uncaring; has it grown cold and distant; are you thinking of or already separated or divorced but want to try again, then the Retrouvaille Program can help you. Call 1-800-470-2230 or visit HelpOurMarriage.com

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

March 23rd & 24th, 2024

4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Thalia Brennan
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Calliope Brennan
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	TBD
4:00 Mass	Lector	Kurt and Kelly Mohney
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Marge Mangan
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Deb Carden
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Mike Stricek
4:00 Mass	EM Cup	John Artman
4:00 Mass	EM Cup	Brenda Artman

10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Jonah Rice
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Julianna Rice
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	TBD
10:30 Mass	Lector	Kay & Ed Corcoran
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Maureen Mizzoni
10:30 Mass	EM Host	
10:30 Mass	EM Host	
10:30 Mass	EM Cup	Donna Iglar
10:30 Mass	EM Cup	Scott Iglar

Children's Liturgy of the Word Schedule

March 17– Patti Klepfer and Toni Robinson

March 24– Ede and Sarah Blabac

March 31– ONLINE ONLY

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: Name one thing you can do or stop doing that will help you have a better friendship with Jesus.

Question for Youth: Sometimes one thing needs to die in order for something new to be born. When have you experienced this in your own life? What do you need to let go of now for something new to grow?

Question for Adults: Name one area in your life that you need to let go of, to die to, in order to rise with new life.

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 **March 17th, 2024**

Deliver 300 copies to St. Francis of Assisi.