

March 29, 2026

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 13901



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
Sarah Bush/ Calliope Brennan /
Logan Kliment
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.

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Saturday, March 28, Vigil of Sunday
4:00 p.m. Kevin Taugher by Family
Sunday, March 29, Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

10:30 a.m. Lorenzo Altadonna by Fina & Family

Monday, March 30

12:00 p.m. Milo DeCastro by St. Francis Special Sunshine Committee

Tuesday, March 31

8:00 a.m. William Reschke by Anne & Mark Anderson

Wednesday, April 1

12:00 p.m. Sebastian & Betty Parasiliti by Family

Thursday, April 2, Holy Thursday

7:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper

Friday, April 3, Good Friday

3:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

Saturday, April 4, Holy Saturday

8:00 p.m. Liturgy for the People

Sunday, April 5, Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People

10:30 a.m. Liturgy for the People

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 1PM—3PM and 5PM till 7PM (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 6200 people, requiring a budget of close to \$90,000 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**

Profit & Loss Weekly Summary (03-23-26)

Ordinary Contributions.....	\$5,377
Loose Cash.....	\$224
Repair & Maintenance.....	\$500
Catherine's Cupboard.....	\$2,294
Catholic Schools.....	\$25
Other.....	\$2,602
Capital Campaign.....	\$55
Total Contributions.....	\$11,077
Ordinary Expenses.....	\$9,066
Repair & Maintenance.....	\$506
Catherine's Cupboard.....	\$892
Capital Improvements.....	\$347
Total Expenses.....	\$10,811
TOTAL.....	\$266

Faith Formation

Faith Formation for Grades K-8 and Confirmation will meet at 9 AM in the Parish Hall

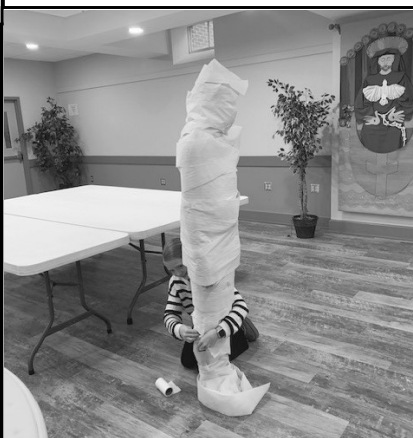
No Faith Formation April 5th and 12th, Happy Easter!

Looking Ahead:

- ✦ First Eucharist Pew Banner Project and Sharing Meal Sunday, April 19th after 10:30 Mass. Children will have class before Mass as usual. Please bring Mementos for the Pew Banner Project that will be completed before lunch.
- ✦ Sunday, May 3rd First Eucharist will be celebrated at 10:30 AM Mass, followed by a reception in the hall.

Confirmation 2026:

- ✦ Friday, April 24th at 7:30 PM, Confirmation Rehearsal. This is our only rehearsal--candidates and sponsors must attend (please find a partner if sponsors are not in town)
- ✦ Sunday, April 26th at 2 PM Confirmation Mass will be celebrated with St. Mary of the Assumption/St. Paul and the parishes of Eastern Broome, followed by a reception in the hall.



Area 5th & 6th Graders had a blast at their Mini-Retreat.



Holy Week & Easter Services

Holy Thursday ~ April 2nd at 7:00PM
Mass of the Lord's Supper
 followed by Adoration until 10:00PM

Good Friday ~ April 3rd
 12:30PM
Rosary will be prayed
 1:30PM
Stations of the Cross
 3:00PM

Liturgy for the Passion of the Lord

Holy Saturday ~ April 4th at Noon
Blessing of the food and baskets
in the Parish Center Chapel

Easter Vigil ~ April 4th at 8:00PM

Easter Sunday ~ April 5th at
 8:00AM & 10:30AM



Good Friday Schedule

There will not be a Holy Hour on Good Friday. Instead, the Church will open at Noon for private prayer. At 12:30PM the Rosary will be prayed. At 1:30PM Stations of the Cross will be prayed. At 3:00PM, Good Friday Service will begin.

The Dogwood Tree

*A story is told, to you and me,
 Of a use once made of the Dogwood Tree.
 It grew straight and tall in the days of old;
 At least that is how the story is told.
 But then they used it just one time,
 To form a cross for that King of mine.
 From that day on, the tree felt shame;
 It twisted its branches to show its pain,
 A pure white cross, its petals make
 So the world won't forget that one mistake.
 The cross is white with tips of red
 To represent places our Savior bled.
 That's the story,
 as it was told to me,
 To explain the flowers
 of the Dogwood Tree.*



Palm Sunday Reflection:

Committing to a Life of Compassion

As we enter into this Holy Week, we attempt to spiritually accompany the Lord in his passion and death. Hopefully, we will see the suffering Jesus went through for us, and allow it to spring forth in the form of compassion on our brothers and sisters. This Palm Sunday offers us hope that the celebration of Easter will find us transformed by the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus. Unfortunately, we know that often we fall short of Christlikeness. Today, let us commit to remembering Christ's great sacrifice for us; it will spur us on to live out our gratefulness to him.

The Great Week

Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday - seven days like any other week. But for us who are baptized Christians, there should be something different about this week, *The Great Week*. If Monday through Saturday is filled with our usual busy schedules, then we're missing some opportunities "grace" we sometimes call it.

Thursday

A day of beauty, peace, quiet and gentle love - the day of the Celebration of the Lord's Supper. It would be worthwhile to employ a babysitter and give your faithful a "night out."

Friday

A day of supreme love - that a man would so love - that a God would so love that he would give his only Son.

Saturday

The day of fire - of hope - of Promise. We wait at the tomb for Jesus' Resurrection. We spend our whole life waiting for our own Resurrection.

And Then Easter Sunday!

The day of Eternal life and Alleluia! This day fulfills all the previous days of Holy Week. Let us lift our voices in one song of praise - Alleluia!

CRS Rice Bowl

Called to Share Bread for Life

Holy Week, the heart of the liturgical year, invites us to journey with Christ through his Passion, Death and Resurrection. As we witness the Last Supper and Jesus' gift of the Eucharist, we are reminded of our call to be bread broken for others. Let us draw strength from the Bread of Life and dedicate ourselves to serving our sisters and brothers who bear heavy crosses, bringing hope and resurrection to the world. Visit crsricebowl.org/holy-week.

Palm Sunday: Creation Care Tip

"Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it, he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, 'Take, eat; this is my body.'" —Matthew 26:26

Jesus took bread, something made with the simplest of ingredients, and imbued it with much more. This week, choose at least one meal to eat using only simple, unprocessed foods that nourish the body. Choose whole foods common in your region instead of food grown, processed, packaged, and transported from far away. As you eat your simple meal, pray in thanksgiving for what you have and for those who don't have enough to eat.

**Catherine's Cupboard Distribution
Volunteer Schedule
April 7th**

1:00—3:00PM **5:00PM—Until Served**

K. Fitzgerald, C. Murray, N. & D. Oliver, A.
D. Dobish, and B. Grace Smilnak, and P. Peters



CATHERINE'S CUPBOARD

**DONATION
PAMPHLET**

Please feel free to take a Catherine's Cupboard donation pamphlet in the back of the church or at the parish center. This pamphlet has some great information about our food pantry as well as many easy ways to contribute to the pantry. There are numerous ways YOU can help those in need right here in our community. The pantry relies on people like you to do your part! Take or request one to be sent to you!

Ladies of Charity Scholarships

The Binghamton Chapter of the Ladies of Charity awards three \$1000 scholarships to high school seniors who plan to pursue a service oriented career which specifically has the potential to make a difference in someone's life. The scholarship is based primarily on service to church, school and community as well as academic achievement and financial need. Please see your high school guidance department for an application. **Deadline is April 17, 2026.**

DeBella Scholarship

St. Francis of Assisi Finance Committee, in conjunction with the DeBella Oversight Committee has set aside a sum of money to establish the John M. DeBella College Scholarships. Four, \$500 scholarships will be awarded to four seniors from the parish who plan to attend college in the fall. Applications for these scholarships are available on the tables at the rear of the church. The application is also available on our website (stfrancisbing.org). **Applications are due by 4 PM on Thursday, May 28, 2026.** (Please note, the parish office is closed on Friday.) In order to be eligible for a scholarship, an applicant **must be a REGISTERED** member of the parish.

Blue Sunday Mass with Bishop Lucia

Bishop Lucia will celebrate a Healing Mass, Sunday, April 26th, Blue Sunday, at 2:00 PM at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Syracuse. On this Sunday, in conjunction with National Child Abuse Prevention Month, we join with faith communities across the country in a day of prayer for those affected by abuse. We encourage attendance at this Mass to pray for those who have been harmed; those who have been affected physically, emotionally, and spiritually by abuse; and all those who have a role in the healing process.

***IMPORTANT*
ATTENTION PARISHIONERS:
Safe Environment Training**

All choir members, cantors and musicians must be Safe Environment trained by March 31, 2026.
You must register online for this training.

Upcoming Safe Environment Trainings

Initial Safe Environment Training

- † **Tuesday, April 7th:** 10:00AM @ Catholic Charities, Binghamton
- † **Monday, April 13th:** 6:00PM @ Our Lady of Sorrows, Vestal

Recertification Training

- † **Wednesday, April 15th:** 6:00PM @ St. James, Johnson City
- † **Saturday, May 9th:** 10:00AM @ Our Lady of Good Counsel, Endicott

Pre-registration is required for all sessions. Walk-ins and late arrivals **will not be permitted**. Registration for training sessions will close one (1) business day prior to the training session.

Register: (www.syracusediocese.org/safe-environment/)

Congratulations CFHS Drama Club

We extend our warmest congratulations to the talented cast and crew of Chenango Forks High School Theater for their outstanding performance of *The Wizard of Oz*! Their dedication and energy were evident throughout the production. A special heartfelt thank you and a huge round of applause goes out to our wonderful parishioners, Claire Blackman, Calliope and Thalia Brennan, Cadhla Hamilton, Elena Kirk, Niy Valla, and Adrianna and Madelyn Walker, for their exceptional talent and hard work, which significantly contributed to the success of this memorable production. Well done!

Congratulations CVHS Theater Guild

Congratulations to the entire high school drama guild, and a special shout out to our parishioners Ella Hart and William Keough, Abraham Watkins (Bass) and Natalie Ehrensbeck (Vocal Coach) on your incredible performance of Les Misérables! Your hard work, dedication, and talent truly shone on stage. From the powerful vocals to the emotional storytelling, you brought this timeless story to life in a way that was both moving and inspiring. Bravo on a performance that will be remembered and appreciated by everyone who had the privilege to watch it! Keep sharing your gifts!

When Planning for your Funeral...

Please be sure to share with your children or whomever may be overseeing your funeral arrangements when you pass that you wish to have a funeral liturgy in the church. Even though your son/daughter may not be active, participating Catholics does not mean that you should not have a proper funeral at church.

**St. Francis of Assisi Lectors,
Eucharistic Ministers & Altar Servers**
March 28th & 29th, 2026

Easter Week TBD by Sign Up Sheets

Holy Thursday 7 PM April 2nd

Good Friday 3 PM April 3rd

Easter Vigil 8 PM April 4th

Easter 8 AM and 10:30 AM April 5th

Children's Liturgy Schedule
March 29th— Dorene Alecia & Amy Drake

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: Share how you sometimes make sacrifices for the good of others.

Question for Youth: Today begins the holiest week of the year. It is a once-a-year opportunity to really reflect on Jesus life, death, and resurrection. How will you enter into this experience? How will you be open to how you might be changed?

Question for Adults: Name one specific way that you live your baptismal call to enter into the death of the Lord by forgiveness, generosity, hospitality, or other ways.