

April 03, 2022

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 13901

5th Sunday of Lent



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 Heaney
Tyler Norton
Sacristans

Office Hours:
Monday — Thursday:
7:30 am to 4:30 pm
Friday: Closed

Parish Office Phone: 722-4388
Faith Formation Office Phone:
722-4177

E-mail:
stfrancisbing@syrdio.org

Website:
www.stfrancisbing.org

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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)

**Saturday, April 2, Vigil of Sunday**

4:00 p.m. Bob Shields by the De Angelo Family

Sunday, April 3, Fifth Sunday of Lent

10:30 a.m. Madeline Benke by Jules Furrer

Monday, April 4

12:00 p.m. Liturgy for the People

Tuesday, April 5

8:00 a.m. Theresa Fox by Tom & Nikki Corgel

Wednesday, April 6

12:00 p.m. Kathryn E. Sirsen by Bob Connelly

Thursday, April 7

8:00 a.m. Bill Cuddy by Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Guzinski

Friday, April 8

NO MASS

Saturday, April 9, Vigil of Sunday

4:00 p.m. Mary O'Neil by Bernie O'Neil & Family

Sunday, April 10, Palm Sunday Of The Passion Of The Lord

10:30 a.m. Tony Nelson by Lois & Paul Cirba

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 (03-20-22)

Regular Envelopes.....	\$5,204.00
Loose Collection.....	\$254.00
Electronic Collection.....	\$1,591.00
Total Collection.....	\$7,049.00

Weekend's Offering (03-27-22)

Regular Envelopes.....	\$3,081.00
Loose Collection.....	\$578.00
Electronic Collection.....	\$2,072.00
Total Collection.....	\$5,731.00

Thank You for your generous contributions!

Faith Formation

Faith Formation Grades K—Confirmation will meet today in the school.

Looking Ahead:

First Eucharist will be celebrated **Sunday, May 1st** at our **10:30AM Mass**. The first 10 pews on each side of the church will be reserved for children and their families. The first pew on the right side of the altar will be reserved for any handicapped persons. Mass will take a bit longer than usual, please plan accordingly

Camino de Santiago: "Shell" Petitions

Maria (and Frank) Kirk will be walking the Camino de Santiago on April 18-28. A tradition of the pilgrimage is to offer the prayers of those you know as you walk. There are "shells" located in the back of the church. If you would like Maria and Frank to walk with your prayers please write your request on the back of the "shell" and place it in the box. You don't need to write your name on the shell--just your petition. Maria and Frank will offer it as part of their pilgrimage and offer the prayers at the end of the walk in Compostela de Santiago. **Shells will be picked up on Palm Sunday!**

Lenten Penance Service

It has been two years since we have had a Lenten Penance Service. COVID did upset our usual way we were accustomed to, so it would be good to share in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, especially if it has been a while. There will also be priests from our area who will be available for individual confessions.



*Sunday, April 3rd @ 4:00PM
at the church*

Prayers . . .

Please remember all of our parishioners who are in hospitals and nursing homes and our homebound. Also, please pray for our deceased parishioners and loved ones.

Lent 2022: A Season of Growth

Lent is a time for growth—to grow personally as well as a church community. Lent lies at the very heart of our Catholic/Christian faith. These weeks can be approached as a time of retreat—a time for deepening our relationship with Christ and to deepen our baptismal commitment to live the Gospel in our day to day living. Central to our baptismal life in Christ is be in union and to live the mystery of Christ's Death and Resurrection. Hopefully, what we are offering in this parish this Lenten season will assist you to further your growth in Christ.

Days of Fasting & Abstinence

For all who have reached their eighteenth birthday and not yet reached their sixtieth birthday, a limit of one full meatless meal may be consumed. Days of abstinence include all Fridays during Lent. For all who have reached their fourteenth birthday, no meat may be consumed on Fridays during Lent.

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the cross will take place every Friday of Lent in the Church at 3:00PM. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

Daily Mass—Lenten Reminder

This Lent, build into your schedule to attend **Mass in our church at 12Noon, Mondays & Wednesdays or in our chapel (in the parish center) at 8AM on Tuesdays & Thursdays.** Remember when daily Mass was a regular practice for young and old during Lent? Why not join us in our beautiful church and chapel as often as you can?! All are welcome. We hope to see you there!

Operation Rice Bowl: MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Hunger impacts millions of women, men and children around the world. Throughout Lent we have encountered communities in Guatemala, Bangladesh and Rwanda that are overcoming this problem so their members can have brighter futures. How is your community working to address hunger or other injustices locally and globally? Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.

Catholic Relief Services Collection

Thank you for your generous support of The Catholic Relief Services Collection and for revealing Christ's love to those who are poor and marginalized around the world. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! Just visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections for more information on how to give. Thank you again!

Ukrainian Relief: Donation Collection

The tragedy of the war in Ukraine continues to unfold, and the suffering of the people only worsens with so many Ukrainians being displaced from their homes and cities. The humanitarian toll is certainly enormous. **The next weekend, April 9/10,** we will have another second collection after communion for the purpose of supporting churches and/or agencies assisting in relief operations. Make checks out to the parish with a note in the memo indicating **"Ukrainian Relief."** You are also welcome to drop off a donation to the parish center. Thank you!

Lenten and Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday ~ April 10th at 4PM & 10:30AM

Liturgies begin in School Gym for the blessing and procession of Palms

Holy Thursday ~ April 14th at 7:00PM

Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by Benediction



Good Friday ~ April 15th at 3:00PM

Passion of the Lord

Holy Saturday ~ April 16th at Noon

Blessing of the food and baskets in the Parish Center Chapel



Easter Vigil ~ April 16th at 8:00PM

Easter Sunday ~ April 17th at 8:00AM & 10:30AM

5th Sunday of Lent: Creation Care Tips

"Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." — Isaiah 43:18-19

If you sometimes feel overwhelmed by the direction the climate crisis is going, consider reading chapter 43 from Isaiah as an antidote. Or read chapter 3 of Pope Francis' Laudato Si' (you can find it online for free). He reminds us, "The Spirit of God has filled the universe with possibilities and therefore, from the very heart of things, something new can always emerge" (#80).

5th Sunday of Lent: Justice Challenge

What is the role of anger and rage in our lives? What purpose does it serve? We often think that when we feel anger, we need to express it... we need to get it out of our system. Perhaps anger has a different purpose as Jesus suggests to the angry crowd that is about to hurl stones at the guilty woman. Perhaps anger is a signal that there is something wrong inside of us, some pain that has surfaced because we have witnessed an injustice in the world and our consciences are feeling pricked. Anger can trick us into thinking that the injustice is outside of us or that we are above it. But Jesus suggests that when we seek justice with anger, rage, or revenge, we should use our anger to look within and hurl stones at our own sin. The challenge this week is to address the injustice that has root in our own souls.

Catherine's Cupboard Volunteer Schedule

Transportation

NO TRANSPORTATION

Shelving (Mondays)

NO SHELIVING

Distribution

April 5th—J. Wyatt, K. Dotson, K. & T. Barnhart

Laimons and Sylvia Drupa Scholarship

The Binghamton Garden Club is offering this scholarship in the amount of \$10,000 to a graduating senior in a Broome County high school. The selected senior must major in a university undergraduate program in horticulture, environmental studies, botany, landscape architecture, biology (not pre-med) or other directly related fields. The award is not just a one-year award, but has the potential of multiple years if all the requirements are met. Interested applicants should contact their school guidance counselor. **Submissions must be received by May 1, 2022.**

Contact M. Rankin, Scholarship Chair, at 607-773-8959 for more information.

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 22, 2022.**

John M. DeBella Scholarships

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 are available at the rear of the church. The application is also available on our church's website. **Applications are due by 4 PM on Thursday, April 28th. (Please note, office is closed on Friday).** In order to be eligible for a scholarship, applicants must be a REGISTERED member of the parish. Email mkirk@syradio.org if you have any questions.

Moving Forward: Renovations

Yes, we are moving forward with our church hall renovations. On Monday, March 14th, work began downstairs. The first phase is on demolition of the bathrooms, constructing the new rooms to be handicap accessible, and certainly a very new look. We have chosen our contractors for the project. Bryant Heating, Panko Electric, and Evan's Plumbing and Heating. We have had the great assistance of Ed King who is affiliated with the Diocese and gives oversight to parishes doing major work. Please keep this project in your prayers, and we will keep you updates as we progress. This initiative would not be possible if it wasn't for enthusiastic support. So, THANK YOU!

Bans of Marriage

Congratulations and best wishes to Emily Vanuti and Andrew Kuebler who will be married soon. May God bless them and their marriage.

Bible Babes are Back!

Bible Babes will resume with their first meeting on Monday, April 18th at 1:30PM in Catherine's Cupboard. For more information contact the parish center at 607-722-4388. All are welcome!

****Volunteer Opportunity: Needed For Co-Garden!!****

Spring is here and so are the thoughts of the delicious vegetables you can help grow for our pantry!! Needed are volunteers to help water the garden and tend to it. This is a great volunteer project for youth, confirmation candidates, and families that love the outdoors and help our pantry. Please contact me, Charlotte Heaney at cheaney@frontiernet.net or (607)765-8392. I am looking forward to working with you!!

Rosary Donations

The Sisters of St. Joseph are helping the immigrants and homeless in NYC and Africa by giving them rosaries. If anyone would like to donate your old or extra rosaries, it would be greatly appreciated. There will be a basket on the back table of the church for those who wish to give. Thank you!

Southern Tier Afghan Resettlement Fund

- Use your camera on your smartphone to scan this QR code =====>>
- Learn more about our Southern Tier Afghan Resettlement Fund
- Donate to help an Afghan family in need right here in the Southern Tier



"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Online Giving

Would you like to save paper and time when giving monetary donations to us? We have the option of online giving for your convenience. Visit our website stfrancisbing.org and click "**online giving**" in the menu. It's easy to set up using your checking account, credit, or debit card for automatic or one-time donation options and you can choose where the money goes.

Ordinary Contribution,

Repair, Maint. & Utilities,

Catholic School Support,

Catherine's Cupboard,

Special Sunshine,

Capital Campaign,

and the Southern Tier Afghan Resettlement Fund

Check it out!

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

April 9th & 10th, 2022

4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Calliope Brennan
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Brendan Kliment
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Logan Kliment
4:00 Mass	Lector	Barb Brozovic
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Betsy A Shields
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Carol E. Danoski
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Lawrence Koch
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Mary Bush
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Sarah Bush
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	William Keough
10:30 Mass	Lector	Ed and Kay Corcoran
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Scott Klein
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Jules Furrer
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Nancy Oliver

Children's Liturgy of the Word Schedule

April 10th

Ede Blabac and Cece Barry

April 17th (Easter)

NO CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Please go online to
stfrancisbing.org
to view our latest Sunday mass and
Children's Liturgy.

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: How does the
Sacrament of Reconciliation help us ex-
perience God's forgiveness?

Question for Youth: Who among your
family and friends do you need to for-
give so that you can heal a broken rela-
tionship and experience newness?

Question for Adults: Against whom do
you hold prejudices? Who do you be-
lieve is a greater sinner than yourself?

END OF BULLETIN

CHURCH NAME: St. Francis of Assisi
CITY, STATE: Binghamton, NY
FILE NAME: 06-168
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Comments:
Bulletin copy for **April 3rd, 2022**

Deliver 250 copies to St. Francis of Assisi.

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope** and **joy** in the Catholic faith.

April 2022

St. Francis of Assisi Church
Rev. Timothy J. Taugher, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

Healthy worship

Recent medical studies revealed that people who attend church at least weekly have longer life expectancies and fewer complications from illnesses or surgeries than non-churchgoers. Going to church may not protect us from health crises, but it does help us cope with them.

Empty and fill

There are times in our lives when we have to empty our minds of negativity so God can replace it with peace and joy. Each day, take time to rid yourself of anger, fear, self-pity, jealousy, and bitterness. Then look for God's gifts of peace, wisdom, friendship, forgiveness, and love.

Speak the truth

Do you have the courage to speak out against injustice or sin? Yes, when you do, you may be called "intolerant" for sharing Gospel truths, but tolerance doesn't render truth untrue. In fact, saying nothing can be worse. Christ is clear: "When your brother sins, rebuke him and when he repents, forgive him" (Luke 17:3).



Give Sundays to God

God intended Sundays as days for worship, rest, and charity for His people. In today's world, however, it can be challenging to "keep holy the Lord's Day." Try these suggestions to recapture your Sundays for God:

Worship: Mass is a direct encounter with God. Make it the center and highlight of your day. Prepare yourself to receive Jesus in the Eucharist by going to Confession regularly and staying aware of your conscience so as to avoid sin. One of the best ways to honor Him is respond to His love with your own.

Rest: Make Sunday different from the rest of the week. Avoid unnecessary work. Finish errands and chores by sundown on Saturday. Serve leftovers or

casseroles on paper plates to minimize washing up. Limit screen time, social

media, online shopping.

Joy: God rested on the Seventh Day and delighted in His creation (Genesis 1:31-2:2). Find time today to do something that brings you joy. Spend time with loved ones, take a nature walk, indulge in a hobby, read a good book.

Charity: Traditionally, charitable works are performed on the Lord's Day. Consider putting money in the poor box at church, donating food or clothes to a shelter, or visiting a lonely neighbor. Don't forget, praying for others and treating them with kindness is a much-needed act of charity.

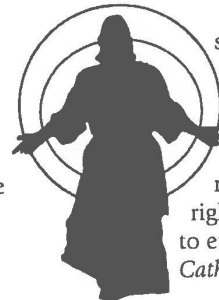


Why Do Catholics Do That?

In the Apostles Creed, we profess that Jesus "descended into hell" – Hades in Greek or Sheol in Hebrew. Used here, it means "the realm of the dead," not necessarily the place of punishment.

Human sin closed the gates of heaven even to righteous

Why do Catholics believe Jesus "descended into hell"?



souls, until Christ's coming. After accomplishing our redemption on the Cross, Jesus descended to the underworld, bringing news of their salvation to the righteous souls who were waiting to enter heaven (*Catechism of the Catholic Church* (CCC), #633).

Keep Easter joy alive throughout the year

Easter Sunday celebrates Jesus' victory over death, sin, and Satan. In fact, it is the most important event in human history. This joy Easter inspires can't be contained to just one day; the Church gives us a whole season to celebrate. Try these ideas to prolong the joy of Easter:

Keep a Lenten practice that helped you grow closer to God – a small sacrifice to honor His sacrifice. For example, attend an extra Mass during the week, or perform an act of charity to share God's love.

Decorate the house. Celebrate the victory Christ won for you. Display an image of the Risen Christ in your home.

Decorate crosses and statues with white sashes. Put out bouquets of flowers (real or silk) for the garden in which Jesus rose (John 19:41).

Proclaim the Good News. Mary Magdalene was the first to share the news of the Resurrection (John 20:17). Share it, too, by wearing a cross or crucifix, saying grace in public, talking about His grace, imitating His forgiveness.

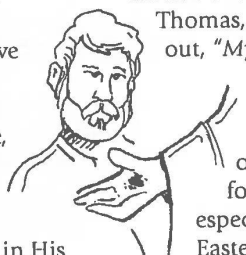


from Scripture

John 20:19-31, "Jesus, I trust in You"

The two Resurrection appearances of Jesus to His disciples in this passage highlight God's merciful love. The first appearance was on Easter Sunday. Jesus could have abandoned His Apostles, just as they had abandoned Him in the Garden of Gethsemane, but He didn't. Instead, Jesus appeared to them and gave them His peace, His Spirit, and the power to forgive sins in His name.

The second visit was for "Doubting" Thomas, who wasn't present for the first appearance. Thomas couldn't believe that Jesus was really risen, despite the accounts of eyewitnesses.



He demanded physical proof. Jesus appeared in the Upper Room and invited Thomas to investigate. St. Thomas, moved to faith, cried out, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28).

This passage reminds us we can always bring our doubts, fears, and need for forgiveness to God, especially on the Sunday after Easter — Divine Mercy Sunday. To the disciples who abandoned Him, Jesus extended His peace and forgiveness. For St. Thomas who had been struggling with doubt, Jesus came in person to strengthen his faith. "Jesus, I trust in You!"

Q & A

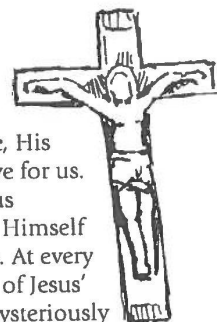
Why do Catholics display crucifixes?

Catholics display the Crucifix because it reminds us of Jesus' sacrifice, His victory, and His love for us.

His sacrifice. Jesus willingly sacrificed Himself for us on the Cross. At every Mass, the moment of Jesus' sacrifice is made mysteriously present again in the sacrifice of the Eucharist in an unbloody manner. The Crucifix indicates that the sacrifice of the Cross and the Mass are one sacrifice (CCC #1545).

His victory. The Crucifix looks like defeat, but in fact, it's a sign of victory. Jesus' sacrifice reconciled us with God, reopened Heaven to us, and broke the grip of death, sin, and evil, and rose again in triumph.

His love. "Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13). The Crucifix reveals how precious we are to God. Jesus taught us that true love seeks the good of the other. Jesus put our good first. He endured the crucifixion so we can be with Him forever in Heaven.



Feasts & Celebrations

April 5 – St. Vincent Ferrer (1419). Against his parents' wishes, St. Vincent Ferrer joined the Dominican Order. He preached through much of Europe. He was called the Angel of Judgment because his sermons aimed to prepare his listeners for judgment.

April 8 – St. Julie Billiart (1816). Born in France, St. Mary Rose Julie Billiart was devoted to the care and education of the poor. After receiving a vision of her future religious order, she later founded the Sisters of Notre Dame.

April 24 – Divine Mercy Sunday. In 1931, Jesus appeared to St. Faustina and asked that the Sunday after Easter become the "Feast of Mercy." Jesus promised special graces to those who honor him as the King of Mercy and pray The Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

April 25 – St. Mark (1st century). St. Mark wrote the second Gospel largely based on St. Peter's perspective. He accompanied Saints Paul and Barnabas on their journey through Cyprus and is credited with founding the Church of Alexandria.



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