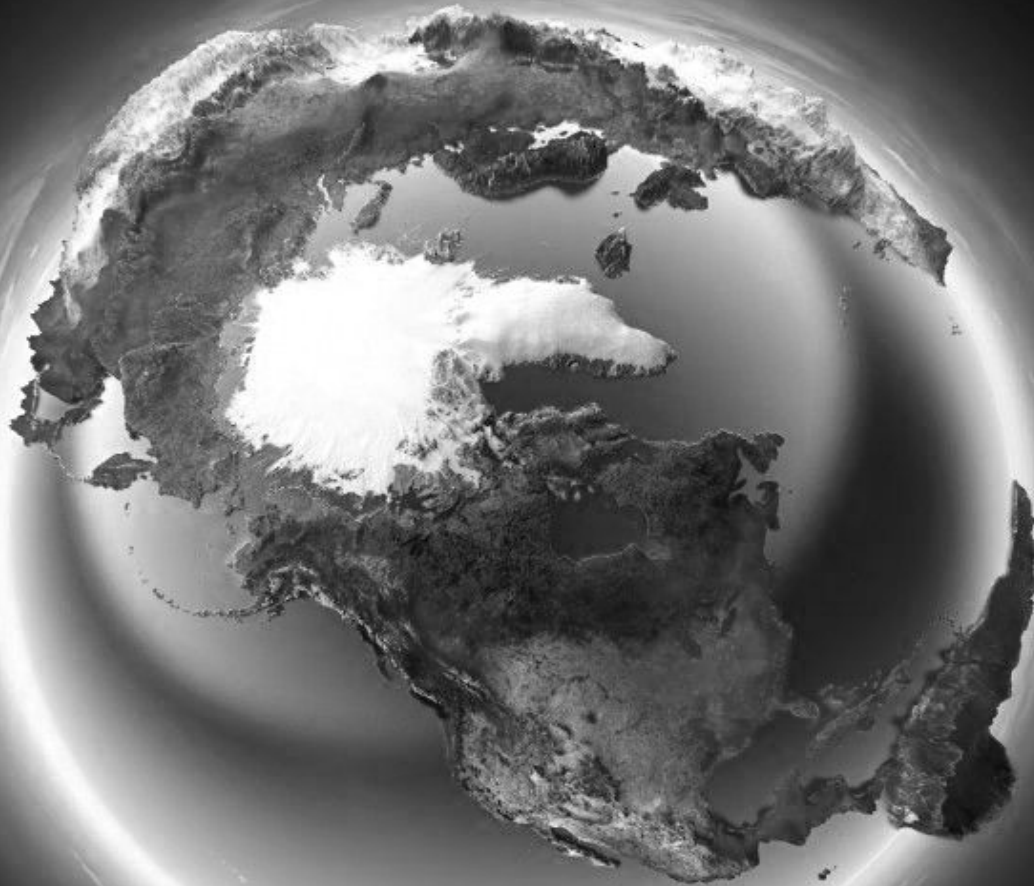


April 23, 2017

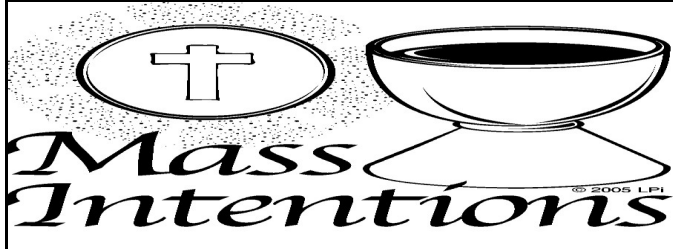
St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 13901

EASTER BRINGS NEW LIFE



EARTH DAY; A NEW CREATION



Saturday, April 22, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. Rose & Bob Riley by Florence Brown

Sunday, April 23, Second Sunday of Easter
 8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People
 11:00 a.m. Dorothy Pagliarella by Jim & Rose O'Neil

Monday, April 24
 8:00 a.m. Mass of Thanksgiving by Jean Aswad

Tuesday, April 25
 8:00 a.m. Joanne Kopyar by St. Francis Special Sunshine Committee

Wednesday, April 26
 8:00 a.m. Barb McEnaney by Bob & Shirley Parke

Thursday, April 27
 8:00 a.m. Bernice Guth by Jim & Rose O'Neil

Friday, April 28
NO MASS

Saturday, April 29, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. Betty Krisko by Jean & Horace Julian

Sunday, April 30, Third Sunday of Easter
 8:00 a. m. Rob Loftus by Wife, Sheila
 11:00 a.m. Lorenzo Altadonna by Family

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.

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 especially Charles Keating and Donald Hurley.

Weekend's Offering (04-09-17)

Regular Envelopes.....	\$10,383.00
Loose Collection.....	\$406.29
Electronic Donation.....	\$1,905.00
Total Collection.....	\$12,694.29

**Thank you to everyone for their donations.
 They are greatly appreciated!**

Easter Offering (04-16-17)

Regular Envelopes.....	\$5,358.00
Easter Envelopes.....	\$6,461.00
Loose Collection.....	\$971.00
Electronic Donation.....	\$440.00
Total Collection.....	\$13,230.00

Faith Formation

No Faith Formation this weekend, April 23rd

Please note the last Sunday of Faith Formation is April 30th. There will be a prayer service in the church at 10 AM. We will collect Rice Bowls at this time. Perhaps you could create a family event by counting up your donation to CRS Rice Bowl. Talk about the families we have helped and the skills they learned because of our donations to CRS. Please, return donations as a check payable to CRS Rice Bowls or with "paper" money for your child to place in the basket at the closing Prayer Service.

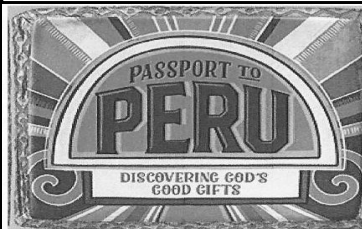
Looking Ahead:

First Eucharist rehearsal will be Saturday, May 6th at 10 AM in the Church.

First Eucharist will be celebrated on May 7th at the 11 AM Mass. The first 9 pews on both sides of the church will be reserved for the children receiving First Eucharist and their families. There will be handicapped seating on the school side of the church only. Mass will take a bit longer than usual. Please plan accordingly.

Save the Date!

Baccalaureate Mass will be celebrated on Sunday, June 18th at the 11 AM Mass. Information will be mailed to graduating seniors soon.



The Biggest VBS
 Adventure Yet!

SAVE THE DATE!

June 26-30, 2017 ~ 6:15-8:30 pm

Binghamton Church of the Nazarene
 1282 Chenango ST

Prayer:**One With The Suffering People Of Syria**

God of Mercy, hear the cries of your people. How long, O God, must our Syrian sisters and brothers suffer injustice? How long must they be casualties of hollow wars?

With heavy hearts, we watch the aftermath of the chemical attack in Khan Sheikhoun in northern Syria.

With numbing grief, we learn of scores of people, including children, who died after plumes of toxic gas fell upon them, like a “winter fog”—many convulsing, choking, gasping for air, and foaming at the mouth.

They are not numbers, but names, members of a family, our human family. They are mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, and grandparents.

They are the face of your Son—crying out, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” (Matthew 27:46)

Give comfort to the father who carried his lifeless little girl, her lips blue, her dark curls brushing closed eyes, wrapped in a blue sheet.

Give comfort to the mothers and fathers as they lay to rest their children in makeshift burial sites.

Give comfort to those who helplessly watched as family members and neighbors fell like leaves to the ground, gasping for air, struggling to breathe, pleading for help.

Give comfort to the doctors, nurses, and rescue workers as they provide care and treatment to those who survived the attack.

Give comfort to those who live in perpetual fear, to those who are internally displaced, and to those who have fled to neighboring countries as war refugees.

Give strength to those who are making a desperate attempt to reach Europe by land or sea, with many dying tragically along the way.

God, as shocking as this unacceptable massacre is, it is but one episode in the long nightmare of Syria’s civil conflict. It is time that the international community stands up and says, “Enough.”

We join with Pope Francis and “appeal to the conscience of those who have political responsibilities, locally, and internationally, to put an end to this tragedy and to bring relief to that dear population which for too long has been overwhelmed by war.” Amen.

Earth Day Prayer, 2017

Earth Day 2017 has as its theme, “Environmental and Climate Literacy,” which calls is to a thoughtful study of environmental issues so that we may act with discernment to defend God’s Creation. This is very much in keeping with Pope Francis’ call in Laudato Si’ and his recent declarations, calling us to a deeper understanding of the environment, both in terms of theological and scientific concerns. The following prayer includes quotations from Pope Francis.

We listen to the words of our Pope as we pray to respect God’s Creation and to reflect deeply on the environmental issues we must face, so we can play our role in the healing of the Earth, so we can comprehend in our deepest being that “everything is connected.”

We are called to recognize the earth “is a garden to be cultivated,” as we are all gardeners needing to touch the soil, the “source of life,” and to experience the mystery of growing things, God’s sacred gifts. In this way, we celebrate our connections with all living things.

We are called to respect and understand biodiversity, “which gives glory to God” by its existence, and to reject any tendency “to be indifferent or resigned” to its loss, and not to turn away from the destruction of ecosystems” that gird Creation.

We are called to renounce “infinite, unlimited growth,” realizing that the earth’s resources are limited and that we must share our “common home” with all other members of the human family, and with the generations to come after us.

We are called to experience, with mind and heart and soul, that “all is communion” through an “ecological conversion,” that we are all necessary to play a passionately informed role As we embrace “our responsibility to ourselves, our neighbors, Creation, and the Creator.” Amen.

— Jane Deren, Ph.D.

Our Easter Season

We got off to a wonderful start with the morning Liturgies of Holy Week and Easter. Thank you to Ed Savo, the choir, those who assisted in cleaning and decorating the church, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers and all those who had their feet washed. A number of people behind the scenes did much to help with getting things in order for the celebrations. Know my heartfelt gratitude for the generosity of your time and energy.

Many people (especially visitors) expressed positive comments as they were leaving the various Liturgies. All of you truly made it a “Day the Lord has made.”

—Fr. Tim Taugher

Catherine's Cupboard Volunteer Schedule

Transportation

Week of April 23rd — Michelle Warne

Week of April 30th — Karen Dotson

Shelving (Mondays)

April 24th — C. & B. Danoski

May 1st — E. & K. Corcoran

Distribution

May 2nd — A. & S. Faughnan, J. Wyatt, M. Quinn, R. & P. Scales

Co-Garden Volunteer Sign-up

As we get back into the business of growing our garden for Catherine's Cupboard, we need your help! The spring and summer will be a busy time, and many hands help our Co-Garden grow. Here are some opportunities for students, adults, and families of the church to get involved.

Please mark any activity you are interested in.

- Planting the Garden**
- Watering and harvesting the Garden; this may be a family opportunity that can be rotated**
- Putting up the fence**
- Selling plants at the vegetable plant sale in May**

Name: _____

Contact info: _____

Phone or email- _____

**Please return in offering basket
or to
Maria Kirk**

Samaritan House Unique Spring Sale

St. Thomas Aquinas Gym
(Highland Ave, Binghamton)

April 22nd 9 am - 4 pm & April 23rd 9 am - 2 pm

Antiques, Furniture, Jewelry,
Linens, Collectibles, etc.

Pocono Downs Bus Trip (Mohegan Sun)

Sponsor: St Joseph's Church

When: Tuesday, April 25th

Cost: \$35 (includes \$25 Free Play, \$5 Food)

Information: Call Grace 761-2357

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 May 5, 2017.**

DeBella College Scholarship

Each year the DeBella College Scholarship Committee awards \$500 scholarships to 4 seniors from our parish who plan to attend college in the fall. Applications for these scholarships are available on the tables in back of the church or on the parish Website. Applications are due by **noon, on Friday, April 28th**. To be eligible for a scholarship, applicants must be a registered member of the parish.

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. This award is not just a one-year award but has the potential of multiple years if all requirements are met. Interested applicants should contact their school Guidance Counselor. Submissions must be received by **May 2nd**.

RCIA Announcement

St. Francis RCIA Team will begin the fourth part of the RCIA process called Mystagogy on Sunday, April 30th immediately after the 8 am Mass. What is Mystagogy? This is a fancy Greek word meaning "leading through the mysteries". We will be discussing additional topics about our faith that we couldn't fit in during the other three parts of RCIA. The sessions last an hour, so if you have some question about Catholicism that you've been meaning to ask someone, please come! You can be Catholic, thinking about becoming Catholic or simply curious. Please come!

Last Call

100th Anniversary Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima 10 Day Pilgrimage to Portugal offered over three dates in October 2017. We can be departing your airport and at the all land inclusive cost of \$2,149.00 in twin accommodations, with single accommodations also available. Call for the special air price from your city. We will be visiting Lisbon, Fatima, Santarem (Portugal), Lourdes (France) and Barcelona (Spain). For information please call James Adair at 1-855-564-1008 or email jimadair@thecatholictour.com

Operation Rice Bowl: Thank You!

Our community changed lives this Lent, and CRS Rice Bowl wants to say thank you! Don't forget to turn in your CRS Rice Bowl at church by April 30th.

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

April 29th & 30th, 2017

4:00 P.M. Mass

Lector	Sr. Karen Gaube
EM Host	Dc. Steve
EM Host	Teresa Creeden
EM Host	Catherine Shafer
EM Cup	Ron Scales
EM Cup	Paulette Scales
EM Cup	Barb Brozovic
EM Cup	Terry Hanifin
Altar Server	Tyler Norton
Altar Server	Brian Heller
Altar Server	Brenden Kliment

8:00 A.M. Mass

Lector	Ed & Kay Corcoran
EM Host	Dc. Steve
EM Host	Maureen Mizzoni
EM Host	Mary Ellen Vaverchak
EM Cup	Tim Vaverchak
EM Cup	Mike Stricek
EM Cup	Ed White
EM Cup	Joanne Horoschak
Altar Server	Natalie Broderick
Altar Server	Braeden Krisko
Altar Server	Peyton Broderick

11:00 A.M. Mass

Lector	Dave Bollinger
EM Host	Dc. Steve
EM Host	Rose O'Neil
EM Host	Steve Guth
EM Cup	Stephanie Stracuzzi
EM Cup	Jim Lewis
EM Cup	David Gill
EM Cup	Chris Gill
Altar Server	Zachary Carr
Altar Server	Brendan Heaney
Altar Server	Jessica Wojnar

Question of the Week

Question for Children: Even though you can't see him with your eyes, how do you "see" Jesus in others?

Question for Youth: Jesus gave us the gift of the Holy Spirit and gave us the power to forgive sins. How do you offer forgiveness to your friends and family? How do you seek forgiveness for yourself?

Question for Adults: When and how do you experience the "new birth" which we are given in Christ? When someone has forgiven you? When you have forgiven others? When you celebration reconciliation? At other times?

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 **April 23rd, 2017**

Deliver 600 copies to St. Francis of Assisi.