

April 26, 2026

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 13901



Confirmation 2026

The Parishes of Eastern Broome

- + *St. Joseph's, Deposit*
- + *St. Joseph, Port Crane*
- + *Our Lady of Lourdes, Windsor*
- + *St Mary's, Kirkwood*
- + *St. Mary of the Assumption*
- + *St. Paul's*
- + *Sts John and Andrew*
- + *St. Francis of Assisi*



Saturday, April 25, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. Susan Edwards by the Brennan Family

Sunday, April 26, Fourth Sunday of Easter
 10:30 a.m. William "Will" Canny Jr. by the Taugher Family
 2:00 p.m. **Confirmation**

Monday, April 27
 12:00 p.m. Carl James Lee by Wife, Sue

Tuesday, April 28
 8:00 a.m. Lorenzo Altadonna by Fina & Family

Wednesday, April 29
 12:00 p.m. Living Intention – Steve, Crystal & Hope Rock by Nicole Rock

Thursday, April 30
 8:00 a.m. Sebastian Campoli by St. Francis Special Sunshine Committee

Friday, May 1
NO MASS

Saturday, May 2, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. Scott Pavlick by Brenda & John Artman

Sunday, May 3, Fifth Sunday of Easter
 10:30 a.m. Liturgy for the People –
First Eucharist

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 (04-20-26)

Ordinary Contributions.....	\$5,300
Loose Cash.....	\$267
Repair & Maintenance.....	\$300
Catherine's Cupboard.....	\$2,022
Catholic Schools.....	\$20
Other.....	\$2,541
Capital Campaign.....	\$90
Total Contributions.....	\$10,540
Ordinary Expenses.....	\$9,483
Repair & Maintenance.....	\$460
Catherine's Cupboard.....	\$810
Capital Improvements.....	\$315
Total Expenses.....	\$11,067
TOTAL.....	(LOSS) —\$527

Faith Formation
 Faith Formation for grades K-8 will meet today for our last session at 9AM in the Church Hall.
 Have a great and safe summer!

Looking Ahead:
 † Baccalaureate Mass will be Sunday, June 7th at the 10:30 Mass. Information on this event will be mailed soon. Graduating Seniors please save the date!



First Eucharist 2026:
 † Sunday, May 3rd First Eucharist will be celebrated at 10:30 AM Mass, followed by a reception in the hall. Mass will be longer than usual, so please plan accordingly.

SAVE THE DATE:
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

GALAXY
Launching Kids on a Mission of God's Love

**MONDAY, JUNE 29TH
 & TUESDAY, JUNE 30TH
 6:00PM—8:00PM**
St. Francis of Assisi Church Hall

← Register today!

St. Francis of Assisi Confirmandi 2026

- † *Isabella “Bernard of Montjoux” Blaise*
- † *Kaitlyn “Elizabeth Ann Seton” DeBetta*
- † *Connor “James” Ferrara*
- † *Avery “Joan of Arc” Forst*
- † *Skylar “Jude” Forst*
- † *Ian “Sebastian” Ginalski*
- † *Fiona “Catherine of Siena” Hamilton*
- † *Grace “Cecilia” Harkness*
- † *Ella “Margaret” Hart*
- † *Madalena “Cecilia” McKeon*
- † *Aubrey “Veronica” McMullen*
- † *MaKenna “Samuel” Robertson*
- † *Porter “Padre Pio” Sirgany*
- † *Madelyn “Catherine of Bologna” Tallant*
- † *Katherine “Cecilia” Yahner*

Congratulations to our Confirmandi! May they be filled with the fire of The Holy Spirit, strengthening their faith, guiding their hearts, and deepening their love for the Lord. May they be courageous witnesses of Christ in the world and grow in wisdom and grace as they begin this next chapter of their spiritual journeys. Please pray for these young people today and always.

HELP WANTED: Do you love dirt therapy?

Come join us Saturday, May 9th at 9:30AM at the Parish Center for those interested in forming and participating in a St. Francis of Assisi Grounds Committee. The Grounds Committee would be tasked to maintain the installation of plants seasonally, water, weed, remove any invasive plants, prune, fertilize, and other tasks needed for general care and maintenance of planted areas around the church and Parish property. This is an opportunity to spend time with each other and God's creations! Special thanks to Bev Krinik who has faithfully helped to tend church grounds for many years!

Welcome Sherry Dee

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Sherry Dee who will be taking over as our new Faith Formation Director this summer. We look forward to working with her through this transitional period as we say goodbye to our longtime beloved Director, Maria Kirk, who is retiring and enter we this new era of Faith Formation at St. Francis of Assisi with Sherry Dee at the helm. Please give her a warm welcome!

On War, Conscience, and Our Call to Be a People of Peace

From Fr. C. Kevin Gillespie, S. J.

Pastor of Holy Trinity Church, Washington DC

In recent weeks we have seen much controversy emanating from our nation's conflict in Iran and the Middle East. Catholic leaders, including Pope Leo XIV and our own Archbishop McElroy have made strong statements against the war. Some have asked: What are we, as Catholics, to think? How are we to respond? How do we remain faithful amid such complexity?

1. A Moral Framework Rooted in the Gospel

The Church does not approach war lightly. Across centuries, she has developed a moral tradition that seeks both to restrain violence and to uphold justice. This includes what is often called the “Just War” doctrine, which insists that the use of force is subject to rigorous conditions of moral legitimacy, such as:

- A just war is a response to an existing or imminent attack, not a preventative action.
- A just war must have the right intention, not a series of ever-changing intentions or objectives.
- A just war must clearly show that the benefits will outweigh the harm which will be done.

At the same time, the Church never ceases to proclaim that peace is not merely the absence of war, but the fruit of justice, dialogue, and respect for human dignity. As Catholics, our first task is not to adopt positions, but to form our consciences in light of the Gospel.

Port Dickinson Community Garden Project

Local Binghamton resident, Lee Heller, is a horticulturist who has been revitalizing the local Port Dickinson grounds. This project that started as a labor of love to spruce up the park named after his father, Lee Heller, has turned a local community park into a floral fantasy. If you have a few minutes visit “Lee Heller Field,” and the surrounding grounds located at 10 King Ave. Around the baseball field you will find a butterfly garden that was designed and installed by (parishioner) Catherine White in one corner and a micro forest along another side of the field that was planted our 7th and 8th grade Faith Formation students. Mr. Heller has filled the area with a vast variety of plants that are a delight to the senses. Mr. Heller's newest portion of the project is taking place at the old park on Wayne Street. Lee's vision is to create a safe space for people to practice various forms of art. The space will have art studios for drawing and sculpting, gardening areas and live performing arts. This is an intergenerational project designed to bring people together. As a Parish, we will continue our partnership with Mr. Heller to support the Community Garden Project. Funds raised through the Creation Care Committee Annual Chicken BBQs will support the creation of a Sunflower path this year. St. Francis of Assisi Parish will be sponsoring a 10-foot segment of the path. Mr. Heller is a changemaker who works with others to make the world a more beautiful place. Donations are always welcome – more information will be shared as this project proceeds.

**Catherine's Cupboard Distribution
Volunteer Schedule
May 5th**

1:00—3:00PM

5:00PM—Until Served

R. Rounds, B. Grace, S. Wolf, and C. Woodruff

N. & D. Oliver, K. Dotson, and R. Rounds



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!

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.) An applicant **must be a REGISTERED** member of the parish.

IMPORTANT

**ATTENTION PARISHIONERS:
Safe Environment Training**

ALL Sacristans, Adult Altar Servers, Liturgical Ministry Leaders, and Lectors/Readers must be Safe Environment Trained by June 30th

CHOIR MUST ALREADY BE TRAINED

Upcoming Safe Environment Trainings

Initial Safe Environment Training

† **Wednesday, May 13th: 10:00AM @ St. Francis of Assisi, Binghamton**

Recertification Training

† **Saturday, May 9th: 10:00AM @ Our Lady of Good Counsel, Endicott**

† **Tuesday, May 12th: 10:00AM @ St. Francis of Assisi, Binghamton**

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/)

Catherine's Cupboard Spring Update

Spring has arrived and we are so thankful for all we have received for Catherine's Cupboard food pantry. A grant of \$1,000 from Music for the Mission, extra meat plus bread from Good Neighbors of Vestal (food recovery operation), soup from Apple Hills Café, much needed personal and cleaning supplies from the NYS Moose Association, Church of Nazarene, plus another food drive from Price Chopper and parishioners who drop off food, personal/cleaning supplies or monetary donations are all examples of the generosity we have gotten. Such generosity is not only appreciated but very much needed. We have been extremely busy, serving average of 80 families every time we're open and we can expect this to increase with cuts to the SNAP program and the better weather. This past winter we had to purchase meats from the local stores due to lack of supply from Food Bank of the Southern Tier (freezer break down) so it made a dent in our budget but YOU have covered it, so all is steady at the moment. THANK YOU, again, so much for your ongoing support—we cannot do this important work of providing for our neighbors/community without YOUR SUPPORT!

Congratulations to Zachery Becker!

At our Easter Vigil we were happy to receive Zachery Becker into the Catholic Faith Community here at St. Francis of Assisi. With his wife, Jessica, who served as his sponsor, received the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation. Their infant son, Benjamin, also shared this special moment, and was wonderful through the one hour-forty-five-minute liturgy. Their other children were unable to attend but they are regularly present at our liturgies. It is wonderful to have Zach and his family with us in our parish community. His receiving the sacraments made the special liturgy even more meaningful for all of us. I like to give a big thank you to Deacon Steve and the OCIA Team who assisted with Zach's preparation. We have already two candidates for next year, and if there is anyone you know wishing to join our faith community invite them. We are all called to be evangelizers of faith. So, invite a family member, neighbor, or a co-worker, they may be waiting for your invitation. Elizabeth Dias is a national religion correspondent, covering faith, politics, and values for the New York Times. In an article around Easter, she wrote about how people are joining the Roman Catholic Church in surprising numbers. In her article she highlighted some of the dioceses in our country and the number of people that were going to be receiving the Easter Sacraments at the Easter Vigil. The numbers are impressive and here are some the ones she mentioned: Archdiocese of Detroit 1,428, Diocese of Des Moines 400, Archdiocese of Washington 1,775; Diocese of Newark 1,701. These are just a sampling so imagine what the numbers are for the Church Universally. Encouraging and hopeful news! Continue to pray for all who may be discerning their commitment to the Catholic Church.

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!

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

May 2nd & 3rd, 2026

4:00 Mass	Altar Server	McKenzie Murphy
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Kylie Murphy
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	TBD
4:00 Mass	Lector	Patti Klepfler
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Peggy Munson
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Beatrice Grace
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Robert Grace
4:00 Mass	EM Cup	John Artman
4:00 Mass	EM Cup	Brenda Artman

10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Juliana Rice
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Natalie Miller
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Clare Blackman
10:30 Mass	Lector	Faith Formation
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Adam Colvin
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Shirley McCray
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Nick Norton
10:30 Mass	EM Cup	Ede Blabac
10:30 Mass	EM Cup	Virginia Thompson

Children's Liturgy Schedule

April 26— Ede Blabac and Melissa Weber

May 3— **ONLINE ONLY**

May 10— Maria Kirk and Ede Blabac

May 17— Sarah and Ede Blabac

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: How is Jesus your example when others don't like you?

Question for Youth: Sheep know their shepherd and follow his voice. How hard is it for you to recognize the voice of God in your own life? Who has helped you hear God's voice?

Question for Adults: In what specific ways is Christ an example which you follow when dealing with others, especially with the ones against whom you hold a grudge or those who dislike you?