

July 30, 2023

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 13901



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
Nick Norton
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 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)

Follow us on FB & Twitter:
@stfrancisbing
for more information

**Saturday, July 29, Vigil of Sunday**

4:00 p.m. Maude Houlihan by Family

Sunday, July 30, Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:30 a.m. Michael Klepfer by St. Francis Faith Formation

Monday, July 31

12:00 p.m. Liturgy for the People

Tuesday, August 1

8:00 a.m. Vita Mannino by Family

Wednesday, August 2

12:00 p.m. Daniel McGarry by Bob & Bea Grace

Thursday, August 3

8:00 a.m. Albert Miele by St. Francis Special Sunshine Committee

Friday, August 4**NO MASS****Saturday, August 5, Vigil of Sunday**

4:00 p.m. Gerald Davies by Wife, Dottie

Sunday, August 6, The Transfiguration of the Lord

10:30 a.m. Tom Giblin by Wife, Joan & Family

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 (07-16-23)

Regular Envelopes.....	\$3,279.00
Loose Collection.....	\$216.00
Electronic Collection.....	\$1,857.00
Total Collection.....	\$5,352.00

*Thank you for your generosity!***FAITH FORMATION**

Confirmation 2023 summer update material has been mailed. Interviews will begin August 1st. If you need to reschedule your appointment please call Maria Kirk.

Your final class and rehearsal will be Sunday, September 10th. Confirmation will be celebrated Sunday, October 1st at 10:30AM with Bishop Cunningham.

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 18****6:30pm - 8:00pm****at Our Lady of Good Counsel**

Evening of Praise & Worship with
Jeremy Bobak & the THRIVE Band
Special Eucharistic Revival Message

Food, Fun, & Fellowship
on the patio to follow,
all ages are welcome!

Tori Reynolds
Evangelization Coordinator
treynolds@syradio.org

**17th Sunday in Ordinary Time:
Justice Challenge**

Family reunions happen a lot during the summer months. You may have seen signs or notices in parks where families have reserved space to come together to catch up on news, share family stories and food and to celebrate their heritage. When we take time to nurture relationships and to support and celebrate our families, it is a blessing. Our families are the first places we learn about faith and what it means to be a part of God's family. There are some things we know about being a part of God's family: we must feed the hungry, clothe the naked, give drink to those who thirst and visit those in prison. Our families help us do this good work. How has your family been a witness to you of being Christ in the world?

**17th Sunday in Ordinary Time:
Creation Care Tip**

What policies does your local government have in place to reduce plastic use? Consider writing a letter or email, or speaking at a city council meeting to encourage passing policies limiting plastic waste such as plastic straws. See <https://www.plasticfreejuly.org/get-involved/what-you-can-do/category/local-government/> for more ideas.

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.

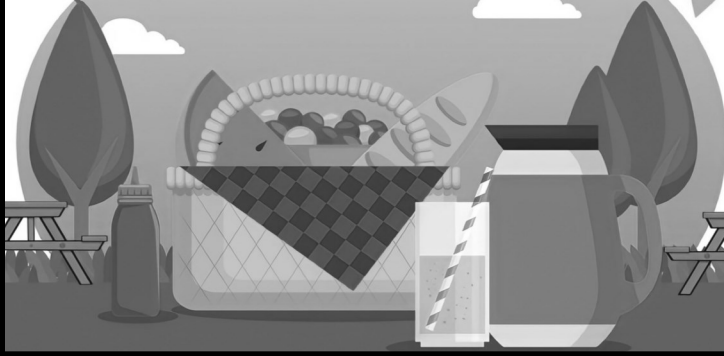


PARISH PICNIC **SAVE THE DATE**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH
12:30PM—3:30PM

THE FIRST UKRANIAN PENTECOSTAL
GROUNDS (143 Castle Creek Rd.)

More information coming soon!



Prayer for Summer

O God of light,

We are thankful for these longer days,

For new ways of being present

Bless our summer sabbatical time,

Renew our hearts, revive our energy

So we may be restored, made whole again,

Ready again for the work of justice and peace.

O God of Light,

Let us absorb your shining grace

As growing things absorb the sun's energy,

So we too may know

A season of slow and steady growth.

Bless the weeks ahead:

May they be a time of ripening

So we can take in your gifts

And move towards the harvest time,

To share with compassion and courage.

Amen.

National Religious Retirement Fund **Collection**

Our Diocesan participation in the National Religious Retirement Fund Collection is scheduled for the week-end of August 12/13. An envelope is included in this year's packet of envelopes, but it is possible that it is "out of chronological order," since the date for our diocesan collection is different from the date proposed by the fund's office. Our diocese has been served for many, many years by religious men and women, and of course they claim immense pride in the sainthood of Mother Marianne Cope. At the same time, there are many more men and women who have ministered tirelessly in the parishes and services of the Diocese of Syracuse. Your support would be much appreciated.

Bans of Marriage

Congratulations and Best Wishes to **Katelyn Church and Ethan Stocum** who will be married soon. May God bless them and their marriage.

Maryknoll Thanks our Parish

Fr. Romane St. Vil M.M. enjoyed the weekend and the receptiveness of the people of St. Francis of Assisi. Thanks to all the parishioners for the 20 new subscriptions for the Maryknoll Magazine and for the proceeds of \$1,297. This is a great help toward efforts to bring the mission work of the church to the people. May this kindness rebound to you.

Exploring Grief **Through One's Own Experience**

The purpose of this workshop is to better understand one's own grief experiences, exploring ways of coping with the pain associated with grief, understanding stigmas and myths around grief and how loss impacts our body, mind, and spirit.

There will be time for creative expression around thoughts and feelings associated with loss and experience a relaxation/guided meditation that can be used to help cope with overwhelming thoughts and feelings. Time will allow for an opportunity to give honor to the ones who have died through a closing ritual.

Mary Jean Tucci, MS. Ed, MDiv has been working in the field of grief work for the past 22 years through hospice bereavements counseling and pastoral care. She is also a Certified Life Coach.

Place: The Spiritual Center Windsor, NY

Date: August 12th

Time: 9AM - 4 PM

Price: \$75 includes lunch

Contact: Sister Elizabeth (607) 655-2264

Upcoming Safe Environment Trainings

Initial Safe Environment Training

- † **Thursday, August 3:** 6:30PM at St. Mary of the Assumption, Binghamton
- † **Tuesday, September 19:** 6:00PM at Our Lady of Good Counsel, Endicott
- † **Saturday, September 23:** 9:30PM at St. Patrick, Binghamton

Safe Environment Recertification Training

- † **Saturday, August 5:** 10:00AM at St. Mary of the Assumption, Binghamton
- † **Wednesday, September 6:** 10:00AM at St. James, Johnson City
- † **Wednesday, September 13:** 6:30PM at St. Thomas Aquinas, Binghamton

Pre-registration is required for these 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. Visit (www.syracusediocese.org/safe-environment/) to register for a training session.

Catherine's Cupboard Distribution Volunteer Schedule

August 1st: D. Dobish, B. Grace, G. Thompson, G. Pendleton

CAN YOU HELP OUR PANTRY??

Catherine's Cupboard needs; Pork & Beans, Mustard, and Blue City of Binghamton Trash Bags (medium size only). Items can be left in barrel in church foyer or dropped off at Pantry during week. Certain items, such as these we are unable to get from Food Bank and are costly when we buy cases. Thank you.



Creation Care Team/Donations

In 2022, St. Francis of Assisi parish members formed a Creation Care committee in response to Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Si. Since that time the committee has initiated many projects, large and small, that could engage parish members (as well as local community members) of all ages to understand and respond locally to the impact of global warming on our shared earth. Projects include: planting trees at Port Dick park, creating a composting and garden project, engaging in a clean energy audit of the St. Francis church and parish center, bottle drives, seed blessing, bicycle rack installation, and engagement of the Faith Formation students to focus on the environment.

To make a donation please go to this site:

www.cathcap.org

select: Contribute —> Support a Group

select: St. Francis of Assisi - Binghamton, NY

This link helps you calculate your carbon impact by:

Flight, Driving, Total Co2 or Cash Donations.

CathCAP (Catholic Climate Action Projects) is a program inspired by Pope Francis. It is a carbon offset platform that allows people to offset some of their carbon emissions from travel and pool their community's donations to fund a local or global ecological project. The Cath Cap website is also a wonderful source of information on how we can all find ways to better care for the environment. Please check it out!

For information or questions, please ask...

Kay Corcoran: edwardcorcoran719@yahoo.com

or

Anne Wolanski: annewolanski@gmail.com

Catherine's Cupboard: *WHY BLUE TRASH BAGS??*

For the past couple weeks we have asked for three specific items, including City of Binghamton Trash bags to help support our pantry. The beans and mustard are coming in great, THANK YOU! SIX trash bags have come in which is not nearly enough. The



City of Binghamton has a law that all residents must use SPECIFIC BLUE bags if they do not have a private trash collector. These cannot be purchased with food stamps, and cost \$5.20 for 5 medium bags. If a family is on limited funds and must decide between trash bags or other necessities what would you pick? We at St. Francis of Assisi feel that offering trash bags to pantry visitors will help keep our city clean from litter and also allows the family the dignity to live in a clean home. If you are looking for them, ask the cashier or service desk for them, as they are no longer left on shelves. WE buy by the case with no discounts and have limited it now to 5 bags per eligible family each month to cut cost. In serving 50-60 families each time we are open, the pantry tries to strive to meet their needs and also follow our mission to be welcoming and accepting to all. This past week we were notified that the McDevitt grant awarded us \$3846.15 which is wonderful, but it can only be used for FOOD. Southern Tier Food Bank has also announced our Federal & State grants have approved \$6882, which also must only be used for FOOD. Your monetary donations go directly to the pantry and allows us to purchase non food items needed to help our many families in need. THANK YOU AGAIN for your support.

Silver Circle Membership

The Silver Circle is a membership program that benefits retired Immaculate Heart of Mary Sisters. For only \$25/ membership, your name is entered in more than 324 drawings from October 2023 through June 2024 with cash prizes from \$50 to \$1,000! You will also be remembered in a monthly mass for benefactors and in the prayers of the IHM Sisters. Please contact Sister Kathleen Joy Steck, I.H.M. at 607-237-5653, for a Silver Circle Membership Form. Thank you for your kind support of the IHM Sisters!

CSBC
ADMISSION

It's almost time for back to school! Have you thought about sending your child to Catholic School? The Catholic Schools of Broome County prides itself on helping our students achieve academically, in a comfortable environment built for learning. Experience what we have to offer and enroll today!

ENROLL NOW

100% GRADUATION RATE

Call For Enrollment: 607-231-4149

Visit Our Website: csbcsaints.org/become-a-saint/

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

August 5th & 6th, 2023

4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Kathryn White
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	TBD
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	TBD
4:00 Mass	Lector	Kelly Robertson
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Marge Mangan
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Maria Kirk
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Larry Koch
4:00 Mass	EM Cup	Kelly Mohny
4:00 Mass	EM Cup	Kurt Mohny
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Abraham Watkins
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Alexander Watkins
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	TBD
10:30 Mass	Lector	Shirley McCray
10:30 Mass	EM Host	David Hanzas
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Kerri Hamilton
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Virginia Thompson
10:30 Mass	EM Cup	Donna Igler
10:30 Mass	EM Cup	Scott Igler

Children's Liturgy of the Word Schedule

CHILDREN'S LITURGY WILL BE **ONLINE**
ONLY UNTIL FALL

WATCH MRS. BLABAC WEEKLY ONLINE
www.youtube.com/@stfrancisbing

VIRTUAL LITURGIES

Please go online to
stfrancisbing.org
to watch our latest Children's Liturgy videos.

We will continue to post new videos by
4:00PM on Saturdays.

Also find the videos on our
Facebook (search "@stfrancisbing")
YouTube (St. Francis of Assisi Binghamton)
<https://www.youtube.com/@stfrancisbing>

**You can still view children's liturgy
virtually!**

Question of the Week

Question for Children: If you could be with Jesus, what would you trade from your own things for that?

Question for Youth: Today's gospel reminds us that God's kingdom is worth sacrifice. What do you need to sacrifice in order to follow God in your own life? Why are you willing to make that sacrifice?

Question for Adults: Using Jesus' parable as your starting point, describe in your own words what the Reign of God is for you personally, and use a parable to describe it: "The reign of God is ____."

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 **July 30th, 2023**

Deliver 300 copies to St. Francis of Assisi.

Growing in FAITH™

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

August 2023

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

One Minute Meditations

A vessel of God's grace

We are each asked to share God's love with others. How much we allow ourselves to be filled with God's grace will determine what we can share with others. We fill up with grace when we frequent the Sacraments, pray, and study our faith. After all, if we don't practice our own faith how can we help someone to become excited about theirs?

Our powerful Lord

In the Gospels, Jesus healed people 20 times. Seven times Jesus expelled demons. Three times He raised people from the dead, and eight other miracles showed His power over nature. With God all things are possible. All we have to do is ask in harmony with His will.

"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior for He has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed"
(Luke 1:46-48).



Build up the Kingdom of God

As followers of Jesus, we're each called to take our place in the Kingdom of God and help build it up. Consider these suggestions to do your part:

Find your gifts: What special gifts do you possess? In addition to talents and skills, these can include wisdom from life experience or a particularly deep faith. Discern your gifts and ask God where

He wants you to use them.

Cultivate gratitude: Write down everything for which you are grateful in a "blessings list." Review it and add to it regularly, especially when tempted to jealousy or discouragement. Praise and thank God daily for whatever is on your list.

Practice humility: St. Thomas Aquinas

said, "Humility means seeing ourselves as God sees us: knowing every good we have comes from Him as pure gift."

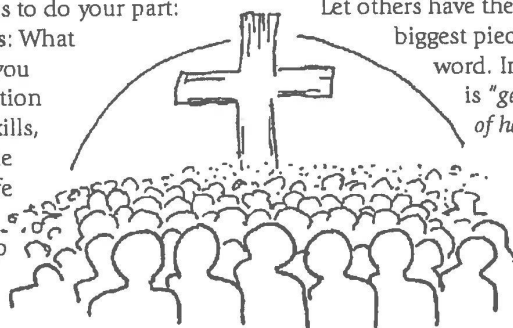
Let others have the best place, the biggest piece of cake, the last word. Imitate Him who is *"gentle and humble of heart"* (Matthew 11:29).

Be ready to serve: Any act of service can build up your parish, neighborhood,

or community. Small

or great, everyone can contribute something. Give of yourself.

Strive for the higher gifts: Jesus asked every one of us to love God and each other. Without love, St. Paul said, *"I gain nothing"* (1 Corinthians 13:3). If you have true charity, you're on the right track.



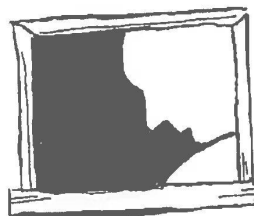
Why Do Catholics Do That?

On Easter Sunday, Jesus appeared to the Apostles in the Upper Room and said, *"Peace be with you"* (John 20:19). He breathed on them, saying, *"Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them and whose*

Why do Catholics confess their sins to a priest?

sins you retain, they are retained" (John 20:22-23).

With that, Jesus established an efficacious way to dispense forgiveness of our sins. He knew we'd need to be assured of His forgiveness by personally hearing the words, *"I absolve you of your sins."*



"Go and make disciples"

We're all called to spread the Gospel as missionaries (Mark 16:15), but not everyone is required to travel. As a Carmelite nun, St. Therèse of Lisieux lived out her "second calling" to be a missionary. Here are three ways to spread the Gospel within any vocation:

Go deeper in your faith. You can't share what you don't have. St. Therèse developed her "Little Way" of holiness after years of prayer and study. Step deeper into your faith daily: read a section of the Catechism, pray over a verse of Scripture, listen to a

Catholic podcast while driving or walking, pray.

Adopt-a-missionary: St. Therèse was a "spiritual sister" to several missionaries, writing them letters and supporting them in prayer, indirectly helping hundreds of souls. Adopt a missionary – or anyone who shares the Faith. Contact your parish or diocese for suggestions.

"Intercession fueled by charity": St. Therèse lovingly offered to God the "thorns" she received from others – discomforts, misunderstandings, hurt feelings – to win souls for Christ. Offer your "thorns" as saving graces.



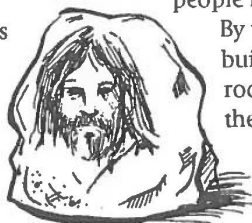
from **S**cripture

Matthew 16:13-20, The "Rock-solid" foundation

The events in this passage lay the foundations for the Catholic Church. In it, Jesus asks His disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" It was a question about Jesus' identity, rather than about the persuasiveness of His teaching or His popularity. The heart of Catholicism centers around the truth of who Jesus is.

Inspired by the Holy Spirit, Simon answers for the group, identifying Jesus as the Son of God, the Messiah (Matthew 16:17). Jesus proclaims this was divinely revealed to Simon and changes his name to Peter

("Rock"). Jesus gives him the keys to the kingdom, giving Peter (and his successors) the authority to interpret Scripture, forgive sins, and admit people into the Church.



By this, Jesus signaled He was building His Church on a rock-solid foundation – on the confession of Peter about Jesus' divinity. This truth has been handed down through the ages, from the Apostles to the bishops to us. The Holy Spirit would lead Peter – and his successors, the popes – to continue speaking and acting in truth as the visible head of the Church.

Q & A How can I avoid gossiping?

Chatting with friends can become gossip – unfairly disclosing another's faults or sins without a valid reason, to people who don't know them (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #2477). Try these ideas when chatting becomes gossip:

Name it: A gentle reminder between friends is an act of kindness. Try, "I think we're edging into gossip," or "Oh, that's not kind!" It's better to risk speaking up than silently allowing sin.

Redirect the conversation: Highlight good qualities of the person about whom others are gossiping. Refocus on inspiring news, a good book you read – anything else that is "honorable ... just ... pure ... pleasing" (Philippians 4:8).

Leave: If nothing else works, excuse yourself and leave the conversation. You'll avoid becoming complicit to sin and wordlessly communicate that you find gossip unacceptable.

Pray: Sins of the tongue (gossip, slander, calumny, detraction) are serious and require grace to resist. Invoke the Holy Spirit for yourself, for those who engage in gossip, and especially for those harmed by it.

Feasts & Celebrations

August 6 – Transfiguration of the Lord. Christ appeared in glory in the company of Moses and Elijah, discussing the Passion (Luke 9:30-31), and a voice was heard to say, "This is my beloved son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him" (Matthew 17:5).

August 14 – St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe (1941). A Polish Franciscan, St. Maximilian was imprisoned at Auschwitz. When the jailers chose ten people to execute, he substituted himself for a man with a family. He was honored as a "martyr of charity" by

Pope John Paul II.

August 23 – St. Rose of Lima (1617). Born in colonial Peru, Rose worked constantly to help her poverty-stricken family. She became a lay Dominican, and cared for homeless children, the elderly, and the sick in her house.

August 29 – Passion of St. John the Baptist (1st century). St. John the Baptist courageously spoke the truth to the leaders of his time, making him powerful enemies. He was arrested by Herod and martyred (Mark 6:17-29).



Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living
Success Publishing & Media, LLC
Publishers of *Growing in Faith™* and *Partners in Faith™*
(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax
<http://www.infaithpublishing.com>
(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible - Revised)