

August 2, 2020

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
Dominick Lomonaco
Nicholas Norton
Sacristans

Office Hours:
Monday — Thursday:
7:30 am to 4:30 pm
Friday: 8:00 am to 12:00 pm
Parish Office Phone: 722-4388
Faith Formation Office Phone:
722-4177

E-mail:
stfrancisbing@syrдио.org

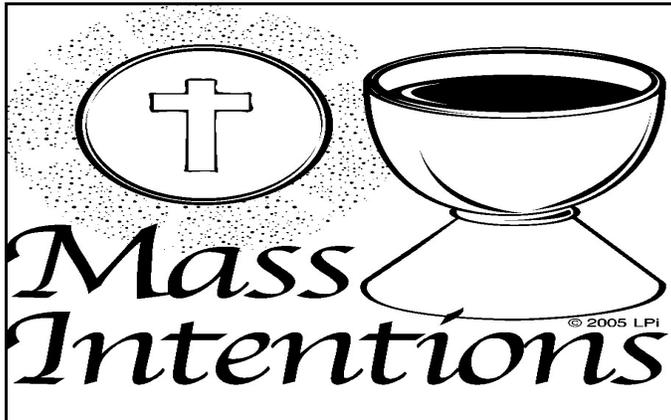
Website:
www.stfrancisbing.org

Follow us on FB & Twitter:
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Please go online to stfrancisbing.org to view our latest Sunday mass. We will be posting new videos of our weekend liturgies by 4:00PM on Saturdays **even after our reopening.**

Also find the videos on our Facebook (search “@stfrancisbing”) Twitter (search “@stfrancisbing”) YouTube (St. Francis of Assisi Binghamton)

You can still attend weekend mass virtually!



Saturday, August 1, Vigil of Sunday
4:00 p.m. Vita Mannino by Daughter Fina & Family

Sunday, August 2, Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People
11:00 a.m. Kathie Rzodski by Family

Monday, August 3
12:00 p.m. Lorenzo Altadonna by Family

Tuesday, August 4
8:00 a.m. Antonio DeLuca by Family

Wednesday, August 5
12:00 p.m. Mike Lynch by Sean & Janine Lynch & Family

Thursday, August 6
8:00 a.m. Jean Galloway by Tom Natale

Friday, August 7
NO MASS

Saturday, August 8, Vigil of Sunday
4:00 p.m. Gerald Davies by Angela Miller

Sunday, August 9, Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People
11:00 a.m. Carol Shiffner by Fina & Vincenzo Altadonna

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 (07-26-20)

Regular Envelopes.....\$3,611.00
Loose Collection.....\$55.00
Electronic Collection.....\$1,952.00
Total Collection.....\$5,618.00

Thank You for your generous contributions!

FAITH FORMATION



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL FULL WEEK ONLINE!

"**EarthKeepers**", our Vacation Bible School (VBS) based on Laudato Si is up now! EarthKeepers is a 5 session VBS that can be enjoyed at your own pace. It will be online through Saturday, August 29th. Each session of VBS video is approximately 35-45 minutes long but would take about 60-75 minutes to complete (but that really depends on how involved your snack, craft and game time takes).

Parents, for a list of items to have around for craft and snack as well as helpful information visit our Vacation Bible School page www.stfrancis.org/vacationbibleschool.

We hope you enjoy EarthKeepers.

A very heartfelt thank you to all who made Earth keepers a success, Ede Blabac, Melissa, Brendan and Logan Kliment, Cindy, Lauren and Kathryn White, Olivia Blaise, Cassie Blewette, James, Sarah and Mary Bush, Sue Ekstrom, Maria Kirk, and Fr. Tim for his ongoing support.

*****ATTENTION CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES:*****

A 2020 Confirmation Update letter has been mailed out. Please review the material carefully. If you need to reschedule your interview please contact Mrs. Kirk directly via her cell phone (607)222-1477.

Thank You for Coming Fr. Joe Marina

I spoke to Fr. Joe Marina, S.J. before he returned to LeMoyne College, and he said how much he appreciated the hospitality and welcome given to him as he covered the parish while I was on vacation. He regretted that he could not of had more time to engage with many of you due to the limitations of interaction because of COVID-19. Not only was he responsible for the liturgies, he was quite busy throughout his time here with concerns at the college and continuing his formation as he prepares for final vows as a Jesuit next year. Thank you for the welcome you extended to him! —Fr. Tim

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 especially, Christopher Shafer.



Reflection on Hiroshima and Nagasaki

I have no doubt that sometimes we hear God through others. This coming week, on August 6 and August 9, we mark the 75th anniversaries of the destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki by nuclear bombs. So, on this anniversary date, I want you to listen to the voice of Setsuko Thurlow, who survived the Hiroshima bomb when she was thirteen years old. These words are from her 2017 Nobel Prize acceptance speech:

"I speak as a member of the family of hibakusha – those of us who, by some miraculous chance, survived the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. For more than seven decades, we have worked for the total abolition of nuclear weapons. . . We refused to sit idly in terror as the so-called great powers took us past nuclear dusk and brought us recklessly close to nuclear midnight. . . We said: humanity and nuclear weapons cannot coexist.

"Today, I want you to feel in this hall the presence of all those who perished in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. I want you to feel, above and around us, a great cloud of a quarter million souls. Each person had a name. Each person was loved by someone. Let us ensure that their deaths were not in vain.

"I still vividly remember that morning. At 8:15, I saw a blinding bluish-white flash from the window. . . As I regained consciousness in the silence and darkness, I found myself pinned by the collapsed building. I began to hear my classmates' faint cries: 'Mother, help me. God, help me.'

". . . As I crawled out, the ruins were on fire. Most of my classmates in that building were burned to death alive. I saw all around me utter, unimaginable devastation. Processions of ghostly figures shuffled by. Grotesquely wounded people, they were bleeding, burnt, blackened and swollen. Parts of their bodies were missing. Flesh and skin hung from their bones. Some with their eyeballs hanging in their hands. Some with their bellies burst open, their intestines hanging out. The foul stench of burnt human flesh filled the air. Thus, with one bomb my beloved city was obliterated. Most of its residents were civilians who were incinerated, vaporized, carbonized – among them, members of my own family and 351 of my schoolmates."

Listen, that you may have life. . ."humanity and nuclear weapons cannot coexist."

Last November, Pope Francis stood on these sites of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and called for a world "free from nuclear weapons." "The use of atomic energy for purposes of war is immoral, Francis said. "We will be judged on this."

Bans of Marriage

Congratulations and best wishes to **Courtney Robinson and Andrew Walters** who will be married soon. May God bless them and their marriage.

Congratulations and best wishes to **Rachael Burns and Jonathan Kellar** who will be married soon. May God bless them and their marriage.

Food That Keeps on Feeding: Gospel Reflection

The miracles of Christ always present challenges for the believer and non-believer alike. Do we take them literally? Do we dwell only on symbolic aspects of the events? In the case of the miracle of multiplication, it can be helpful to "look behind the scenes" at the setting and the circumstances of the miracle. What we discover is that in this miracle, as in most of them, Jesus is right there, involved, caring and being compassionate. He does not "do" His miracles from a distance, nor does He perform them to attract attention. Rather, Jesus is compassionate, He is present and, by performing the miracle, He is willing to risk. In so doing, Jesus demonstrates characteristics that are helpful for us to have in our lives as Christians. He feeds us spiritually even as he feeds physically those who were hungry then. By accepting Christ, this food that keeps on feeding, we are able to minister more effectively in His Name.

Prayer for the End of Hunger

Sharing the loaves and fishes,

You gave us an image of solidarity

With the hungry, O Lord.

Sharing yourself in the Bread and Wine,

You called all to the table, O Lord.

*Give me the hunger to be a part of the feeding
And the healing of this world.*

Nourish me with your Grace,

So I may work with joy to serve your children.

Open my eyes and my heart

To recognize those in poverty

And increase my awareness

*Of the structures and systems that need to be changed
So we may all break bread together.*

In your name we pray for the end of hunger. Amen.

Instructions for Celebration of Sacraments

In order to permit Mass each parishioner must:

—Seek information from his/her parish regarding registration for Mass, and policies/ procedures.

—Remain home if sick, symptomatic, or at risk

—Wear a face mask in church (required) and, if possible, bring personal hand sanitizer

—Observe the commands on the posted signage and follow the directives of ushers

Be aware that during this period, there will be:

—No holy water in fonts

—No offertory procession

—No passing of the collection basket; baskets will be made available for offerings

—No hymnals or missalettes (unless your own)

—No congregating closely in or around the church

Prepare for the reception of Holy Communion:

—Masks will be worn by ALL

—Direction will be provided for those receiving

—The Precious Blood will NOT be offered

—Reception will involve: receiving the Body of Christ in the hand ONLY, stepping aside, lifting the mask, consuming the Eucharist, returning the mask.

Catherine's Cupboard Volunteer Schedule

Transportation

Week of July 19th — Marie Giordano

Week of July 26th — Karen Dotson

Shelving (Mondays)

July 20th — E. & K. Corcoran

July 27th — J. & K. Brady

Distribution

July 21st — S. Orband, M. Mizzoni, L. Gildea, M. & T. Giblin, M. Hayes

Pantry Volunteers Needed (New Schedule)!

Catherine's Cupboard is ready to make a new schedule for Tuesday Open Pantry 5:30PM-7:30PM. ARE YOU INTERESTED in helping? Volunteers will be working in a team of 3 inside, with protective shields, masks etc. One visitor at a time, no one will be allowed in to sit and wait, once served they will leave by side foyer, for everyone's safety. Please call or email if interested (723-2350 or bevkrinik@aol.com). The schedule will be for Sept. Have you gotten more 2021 calendars than you need? We would love extras, including greeting cards! Drop off at parish center!

JOB OPENING **(HouseKeeper)**

We have a current job opening for our housekeeping position. The expected schedule is 3 days a week (Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday) with hours ranging from 15-20 hours weekly.

Duties include; cleaning, organizing, watering plants, taking out garbage, etc.

If you or someone you know is interested in this position, please call the Parish Center (607-722-4388) during regular business hours.

Please Note: It is mandated that every employee complete Safe Environment Training within 60 days of hire. As part of this course it is **required** to pass a criminal background check.

VIDEOS! FULL MASS & CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD!

We would like to remind everyone who may not be able or who may still be concerned about attending Mass physically, we are still posting our full Sunday liturgy videos on our website (stfrancisbing.org), on our Facebook page, and on our Twitter page! We will continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

We are also posting Children's Liturgy of the Word for our young parishioners who would certainly benefit from a more comprehensive understanding of the readings and the gospel. It's a great way to get them engaged in Mass and our catholic teachings.

PLEASE, LET US KNOW THE NAMES AND THE ADDRESSES OF ANY SHUT-INS AT HOME OR IN NURSING HOMES. WE WOULD LOVE TO REACH OUT IN ANY WAY WE CAN! CALL DELORES AT THE PARISH CENTER (607)722-4388 TO LET US KNOW! THANK YOU!

Safe Environment Trainings

The Office of Safe Environment is offering online initial and re-certification training sessions for those required or interested to attend. The complete schedule of available training sessions and registration links can now be found on the diocesan Safe Environment page: <https://syracusedioocese.org/safe-environment/> Four new sessions have been added to the Online Training Schedule:

PGC (Initial) Training:

Tuesday, **August 4th 6pm - 8pm** (Registration closes on Thursday, July 30th at 9am)

Tuesday, **August 11th 9am - 11am** (Registration closes on Thursday, August 6th at 9am)

EPDR (Re-certification) Training:

Friday, **August 7th 9am - 10:30am** (Registration closes on Monday, August 3rd at 9am)

Wednesday, **August 12th 6pm - 7:30pm** (Registration closes on Friday, August 7th at 9am)

Pre-registration is required for these sessions. Sessions are limited to 20 participants on a first-come, first-serve basis. Registration for the online training sessions will close four business days before the training session to allow time to mail training packets to participants' homes before the training session. If you have any questions or concerns, call 315.470.1421 or jzarnowski@syrдио.org.

Why Volunteer?

There are so many reasons to volunteer:

- † Lets you share your knowledge and talents.
- † Provides opportunities for making many new friends.
- † Brings the special fulfillment that comes only from helping others.
- † Helps you "get outside" yourself and put your own problems — even grief — in perspective.
- † Allows you to polish old skills and learn new ones.
- † Lets you "repay" an organization that has helped you or someone you love.

So, go out and give volunteering a try!

Enjoy the Convenience of Online Giving!

St. Francis of Assisi Parish offers an easy way to make donations online.

We currently have the following accounts set up to donate

Ordinary Contribution

Repair & Maintenance

Catholic School Support

Catherine's Cupboard

Special Sunshine

Capital Campaign

Have donations taken weekly, monthly or yearly.

To set up an online giving account, visit our website stfrancisbing.org. Click the "Online Giving" tab listed at the top of the site's home screen or if you're using a mobile device, by clicking the drop-down menu in the top right corner. You must have an e-mail address to register online. Here you can create an account and authorize to have your donations electronically transferred directly from your checking account, your debit card or your credit card to the parish. If you have questions or need help getting started, call the Parish Center at 722-4388 and we will guide you through the process.

**St. Francis of Assisi Lectors,
Eucharistic Ministers & Altar Servers**
August 8th & 9th, 2020

4:00 P.M. Mass

Designation ONLY

8:00 A.M. Mass

Designation ONLY

11:00 A.M. Mass

Designation ONLY

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YouTube (St. Francis of Assisi Binghamton)

**You can still attend weekend mass
virtually!**

**Children’s Liturgy of The Word will be
posted by Noon on Saturdays!**

Question of the Week

Question for Children: What are the ways that Jesus shows he loves you?

Question for Youth: Jesus was very attentive to his followers. He cared for them and for their needs. What are your needs? What can Jesus do to help you?

Question for Adults: In your experience, what “false obstacles” have you or people you know experienced separating them from Christ? Things such as divorce? Or marrying outside the church? Or not attending Mass? Or others

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 **August 2nd, 2020**

Deliver 200 copies to St. Francis of Assisi.

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

August 2020

St. Francis of Assisi Church

Rev. Timothy J. Taugher, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

St. Alphonsus Liguori

Born near Naples, Italy, St. Alphonsus left his successful legal career for the priesthood. He founded the Redemptorists to educate the faithful. Internal problems resulted in the Order's rejecting St. Alphonsus. Despite failing health, he was made a bishop. He lived simply and was generous with the poor. He combatted Jansenism, which imposed a burdensome, legalistic morality, and promoted a more moderate, realistic morality – one driven by love rather than guilt. He is a Doctor of the Church.



Pay God first

It takes money to do God's work in the world and the top funding source for the Catholic Church's ministries is her generous people. Set aside a portion of every paycheck for charity just as you do for your rent or mortgage. Write that check first. Your parish needs your support now, more than ever.

"The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?" (Psalm 27:1).



Lean on our Faith during tough times

Throughout the history of God's dealings with humanity, He has continually brought good out of evil. During this unprecedented time of pandemic, we can remember this history and lean on Him.

Participate in weekly worship. If public Mass is not an option for you, find ways to join in worship safely. Participate in Mass online and don't miss a Sunday. Support others by setting up a prayer group or Bible study with friends through calls, chats, or online meets.

Practice listening during prayer. Even though our schedules may have slowed down, our thoughts probably have not. Make mental space to listen to and hear from the Holy Spirit, and

allow Him to bring truth and consolation.

Look for the ways God is working in the crisis. Our fear and anxiety can arise from worrying about what might happen. It helps to look for the good coming out of the crisis.

Can you spot unexpected blessings?

Create a safe space in your home. Create a place – a corner, a chair, a large closet – where you spend at least 15

prayerful minutes each day. Take this time to remember that you are not alone.

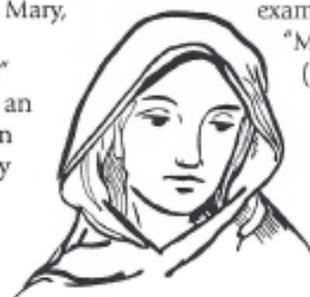
Be not afraid. Choosing to trust God is a decision we can each make. It comes from a determination to surrender with confidence knowing His love is enough.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics have so many titles for Mary?

Everything we say about Mary, ultimately, is about Jesus, including her "devotional" titles. Each title highlights an aspect of God's saving plan and Mary's role in it. Many of them have to do with her sinlessness and her motherhood. For



example, Mary is called the "Mirror of Justice," Theotokos ("God-bearer"), "Seat of Wisdom", "House of Gold," etc. Mary's titles – like Mary – are meant to draw our focus not to Mary, but to Jesus. Mary always leads us to her Son.

Turn conflict into growth

Criticism can bring you down if you let it. Instead, finding a gracious way to handle criticism can be the key to improving your life, attracting new friends, and becoming a better Christian.

Stay calm. The person delivering the criticism may be having a bad day or seeking attention. Or, she may really want to help and just not be skilled in delivering criticism. Staying calm and avoiding defensiveness helps you look for the rose among the nasty thorns.

Thank the commenter, no matter what is said or



how it is delivered. People who make rude comments don't expect you to listen to them, much less be grateful for their comments. Being appreciative is disarming. That's how to turn a critic into a friend.

Weigh the criticism. Do the comments contain something helpful you can use to become a better person? Is the person trying to help, to make things better, to keep you from repeating mistakes, to suggest positive improvements? If not, forget it and move on without anger.

from Scripture

Matthew 16:21-27, Our ways are not God's ways

This passage seems like bad news. First, Jesus predicts his own death. This must have shocked the disciples, to whom it was just revealed that their Master was the long-awaited Messiah. Instead of an epic, Roman-conquering battle plan, Jesus told them he would be executed – seemingly tragedy and defeat, not joy and triumph.

Second, Peter did what we often do when God permits setbacks and suffering. He saw the Cross and wanted to flee – and was harshly rebuked. Yet, if Jesus listened to Peter and turned aside, we would have died in our

sins, unable to get into Heaven. Instead, he chose the Cross – for us. He chose us. Through our post-Resurrection lens, what seemed a devastating defeat was actually a decisive victory against sin and death.



Let's be clear: our Father wants us to be happy, but he wants us to be happy forever, not just for today. The key is not to avoid the crosses he sends us, but to accept them trustingly, peacefully, as

Jesus did. Jesus helps us carry our crosses, with him taking the heavier end.

Q & A Can the seal of Confession ever be broken?

The seal of Confession refers to the silence binding a priest, under severe penalties, about what he hears in Confession. "[The priest] can make no

use of knowledge that confession gives him about penitents' lives." (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #1467). The penitents are not bound by the seal.



The only two "exceptions" are: If the penitent wants to discuss his previous confession to Fr. X with him, Fr. X must first ask the penitent's permission. Or, if a priest needed guidance from another confessor, he must still ask the penitent's permission and keep the penitent's identity a secret.

In truth, in the Sacrament of Confession the penitent is really addressing Jesus Christ, not the priest, who is simply the "phone line" between the two parties. The purpose of the seal is to encourage people to approach the Lord in complete confidence and experience his mercy. While this enforced silence may seem strange and possibly problematic, the first priority is the salvation of souls. The rest is entrusted to God.

Feasts & Celebrations

Aug. 10 – St. Lawrence (258). A Roman deacon to Pope St. Sixtus II, St. Lawrence presented the poor and destitute as the Church's treasure, in answer to Rome's demands for the church's gold. He was martyred shortly afterwards.

Aug. 15 - The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (1950). Declared a dogma of our faith by Pope Pius XII, the Assumption celebrates Mary being taken up into Heaven body and soul at the end of her life. Note: This year, this is NOT a Holy Day of Obligation.

Aug. 25 – St. Joseph Calasanz (1648). Seeing the suffering of neglected children, this Spanish priest founded the Clerks Regular of Pious Schools, called the Piarists to educate them. He suffered opposition for his work, which he bore with patience and humility.

Aug. 27 – St. Monica of Hippo (387). St. Monica is best known for converting her wayward son and pagan husband by her patience, piety, and prayers. Her son, St. Augustine, became a great saint of the Church.



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