August 09, 2026

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
Sherry Dee
Director of Faith Formation
Joseph Carpenter
Parish Business Administrator
Suzanne Ekstrom
Parish Media Manager
Edmund Savo
Organist
Fred Hazlett
Maintenance/Groundskeeper
Tina Silvestri
Housekeeper
Sarah Bush/ Calliope Brennan / Logan Kliment
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 post new videos by 4:00PM on Saturdays.

Follow us on Facebook

@stfrancisbing

Subscribe to our YouTube Channel:

youtube.com/ @stfrancisbing

Saturday, August 8, Vigil of Sunday
4:00 p.m. 11th Anniv. Julia Pandich by Family
Sunday, August 9, Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
10:30 a.m. Lorenzo Altadonna by Family
Monday, August 10
12:00 p.m. Robert Sisolak by Mary Frances Charsky
Tuesday, August 11
8:00 a.m. Patty Harlow by John & Brenda Artman
Wednesday, August 12
12:00 p.m. Donna Lee Travis by Becky Williamson
Thursday, August 13
8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People
Friday, August 14
NO MASS
Saturday, August 15, Vigil of Sunday
4:00 p.m. Susan Edwards by Family
Sunday, August 16, Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
10:30 a.m. Nancy Williams by The Bible Babes

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 (08-03-26)

Ordinary Contributions	$6,313
Loose Cash	$398
Repair & Maintenance	$468
Catherine's Cupboard	$2,286
Catholic Schools	$25
Other	$775
Capital Campaign	$30
Total Contributions	**$10,295**
Ordinary Expenses	$9,147
Repair & Maintenance	$137
Catherine's Cupboard	$1,100
Capital Improvements	$0
Total Expenses	**$10,384**
TOTAL (LOSS)	**—$89**

Please help keep our Parish going!

Faith Formation Family Collaboration Meeting

A letter has been mailed to families with children in grades 7, 8, and 9 inviting them to a meeting on **Sunday, August 9th after 10:30AM Mass**. This meeting will be a collaboration with the goal of coming up with a schedule for the 2026/2027 Faith Formation year that will more easily suit families needs. Parents with 7th, 8th, and 9th graders, please plan to join us with your families in order to make your voice heard. Light refreshments will be provided.

IMPORTANT ATTENTION PARISHIONERS: Safe Environment Training

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

Upcoming Safe Environment Trainings

Initial Safe Environment Training

- **Monday, August 24th:** 6:00PM @ Our Lady of Sorrows, Vestal
- **Tuesday, August 25th:** 6:00PM @ St. James, Johnson City
- **Thursday, September 10th:** 10:00AM @ Catholic Charities of Broome County, Binghamton
- **Saturday, September 26th:** 10:00AM @ Our Lady of Good Counsel, Endicott
- **Thursday, October 15th:** 6:00PM @ Our Lady of Sorrows, Vestal

Recertification Training

- **Thursday, August 27th:** 6:00PM @ Our Lady of Sorrows, Vestal
- **Saturday, October 24th**: 10:00AM @ Our Lady of Good Counsel, Endicott

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/)

Have You Noticed the Beautiful Addition to the Landscape in Front of the Church?

With the patient and persevering work of Fred Hazlett, Kirk Simmonis, Scott Igler, and Dave Ferreti they added a nice stone edging to raise the flower bed, giving it a new look. Also, Ed/Kay Corcoran, Nora Bush and the Creation Care Team did weeding and other work to spruce up our property. Thank you to all of you for your wonderful work especially during some very hot days.

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel Short: Get Out and Walk

In the turbulence of our everyday lives, we often rely entirely on ourselves, imperfect though we are. Even though most of us, as Christians, know better, we forget or are too stubborn to turn to that Source of perfect wisdom and true security that cannot fail us.

God never turns down an earnest plea from one of His children. We may not recognize his help because it isn't what we expect or want until we learn that his way is the best way.

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Creation Care Tip

As summer fruit comes into its abundance, do you or anyone you know have extra produce to share? If you can't eat all the apples on your tree or notice a fruit tree in your neighborhood laden with good fruit, inquire about picking it and donating it to a local food bank. If you can't harvest it yourself, inquire about local volunteer fruit gleaning groups who will come and harvest the fruit and give the excess to those in need. Inspired? Start a gleaning program in your own community (https://bit.ly/gleaning-guide)!

19th Sunday in Ordinary: Justice Challenge

On August 14 we celebrate the feast day of St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe. He gave up his life in a concentration camp during World War II, offering to take the place of a father who was selected for the gas chamber. He was canonized a saint in 1982. Your challenge this week is to give up something on behalf of another person. It won't be your very life as it was for St. Maximilian, but it might be something you really like. Maybe you are called to give up television to help someone with their homework, or to sacrifice a meal in order to pray for a loved one suffering from cancer. It might be taking money you saved for a smart phone or tablet and donating it to people suffering from a hurricane or typhoon. What are you willing to give up for others?

Internet Browsing for the Planet: Ecosia

When you search the web using Google, Bing, Safari, etc. the company makes money by tracking interests so you can get tailored advertising. The search engine Ecosia can be used as a better alternative and instead of keeping that ad money for itself, it uses it to plant trees. Please consider changing your go-to search engine on all your devices to Ecosia. Care for our common home!

Save The Date

Parish Picnic
September 20th
12Noon
Binghamton First Ukrainian Pentecostal Picnic Grounds (Former St. Christopher's)

More details to follow.
Mark your calendars!

Annual Pax Christi NY State Gathering

What really is the Peace of Christ message?

Join us to share the love of peace and justice
Pax Christi New York State
invites you to

Living Nonviolence in a Violent World

Location: St. Kateri Tekakwitha National Shrine
Fonda, NY
Date & Time: Friday, August 14th, 2026
10 AM – 4:30 PM

National Religious Retirement Collection

August 15th & 16th

The National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO) is announcing that the annual Retirement Fund for Religious collection will be held in parishes throughout the Diocese of Syracuse on the weekend of Aug. 15-16. Support from the Retirement Fund for Religious helps religious communities care for senior members in their retirement years while allowing them to continue important ministries to the People of God.

Hospital Visitation

Please remember, if you or another parishioner gets admitted to one of the local hospitals and you wish to be visited by Fr. Tim **you MUST tell someone or call the parish center**. You should indicate that you are belong to St. Francis of Assisi parish and that you wish to be visited by Fr. Tim or any Clergy member.

When Planning for your Funeral…

Please be sure to share with your children or whomever may be overseeing your funeral arrangements when you pass that you wish to have a funeral liturgy in the church. Even though your son/daughter may not be active, participating Catholics does not mean that you should not have a proper funeral at church.

For Potential Godparents and Sponsors for Baptisms or Confirmation

Anyone looking to be a Godparent or Sponsor to a Confirmation Candidate MUST be a registered member of St. Francis of Assisi to be able to get a letter of certification. This is the only way that the Church can verify you are a practicing Catholic. Please call Delores at the Parish Center (722-4388) for questions.

Catherine's Cupboard Distribution Volunteer Schedule
August 18th

1:00—3:00PM	5:00PM—Until Served
R. Rounds, B. Grace, and A. & S. Faughnan	K. Dotson, M. Hayes, C. Danoski, and P. Peters

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!

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 choose where the money goes. The following accounts are available for donations:

Ordinary Contribution, HOPE Appeal Repair, Maintenance, & Utilities, Catholic School Support, Catherine's Cupboard, Special Sunshine, Capital Campaign, STAR Fund, Sound System and Creation Care Team

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!

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!

UPCENTER WEEKLY MEALS

United Presbyterian Church at 42 Chenango St. has taking over an overnight shelter for men July 1st through September 30th when Urban League will hopefully take over. Dinner & breakfast meals are needed. Every Wednesday we (St. Francis of Assisi) and our neighbor churches (Ogden Methodist, Church of Nazarene, and Chenango Bridge Methodist) plus Dottie's Kitchen will be providing these meals. Sit down dinner for 40—50 men plus a bagged breakfast to-go will be provided. Catherine's Cupboard is covering the food where needed. The first meal was Chicken N Biscuits and the next week, Hot Dogs with macaroni salad. Using our sources from the pantry and Good Neighbors (recovery food site) it will be affordable without dipping into the general funds from the parish. Thank you to those who have already signed up to do volunteer work; cooking, serving and clean up. **ALL FOOD MUST BE DONE IN CERTIFIED KITCHENS WITH ACCREDITED VOLUNTEERS**. Monetary donations towards this may be given to CATHERINE'S CUPBOARD. If this does become a year round project for our parish we will certainly be looking for more volunteers in September.

Thank You For Christmas in July Card Sale

Thank you to everyone who enthusiastically supported the Xmas card sale this year. A total of $430 was raised to date. A second printing order is underway to complete orders. If you missed the sale or would like more cards, please contact Barb Brozovic (607) 422-6662 or bhbrozovic@gmail.com.

Sister Karen Address

If you or someone you know would like to send something or visit Sister Karen her mailing address is listed below. She would love to hear from you!

Sister Karen Teresian House #33
200 Washington Ave Ext Albany, NY 12203

PARISH REGISTRATION

Our warmest welcome to all! We extend our hands and hearts in Christian fellowship to you, celebrating with us, whether you're a long-time resident or newly arrived in the Parish. Please check the appropriate box and place in the collection basket or return to the Parish Center. *We thank God that you're with us.*

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ Zip_____

Home Phone_____

Cell Phone_____

☐ New Parishioner, send registration form
☐ Change of address or phone number
☐ Temporarily away. Stop envelopes
☐ Moving, please remove from Parish Roster

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

August 15th & 16th, 2026

4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Thalia Brennan
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Calliope Brennan
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Clio Brennan
4:00 Mass	Lector	Barb Brozovic
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Anne Smilnak
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Peggy Munson
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Marge Mangan
4:00 Mass	EM Cup	Mary Russik
4:00 Mass	EM Cup	Terry Hanifan
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Clare Blackman
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Daniel Dundon
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Lilly Dundon
10:30 Mass	Lector	Anne Wolanski
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Kevin Murphy
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Virginia Thompson
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Mary Mullaney
10:30 Mass	EM Cup	Rick Kazmark
10:30 Mass	EM Cup	Adam Colvin

Children's Liturgy Schedule

ONLINE VIDEO ONLY

Go to our website **stfrancisbing.org** to watch our weekly Children's Liturgy of the Word.

See you again after summer!

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: What does God's voice sound like when you pray and listen to Jesus?

Question for Youth: In today's Gospel, Peter began to walk on the water when he was focused on Jesus. He began to sink when he got distracted by the storm. What is your life like when you are focused on Jesus and your relationship with God? How is it different when you get caught up in other things?

Question for Adults: Tell about your experiences of hearing God speak in "tiny voices" rather than in the winds and earthquakes of life.

Growing in FAITH™

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

August 2026

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

One Minute Meditations

St. Bernard of Clairvaux

Although born into wealth, St. Bernard desired a life of simplicity, holiness, and austerity. Born in 1090 in Fontaines, France, he entered the monastery at Citeaux in his twenties, followed by most of his family. Recognizing his holiness and noting the overcrowding of the monastery, the abbot sent St. Bernard to establish a new monastery in Clairvaux. St. Bernard went on to found monasteries for nuns, worked for the Holy See, and preached the Second Crusade.

More than the mission

No matter our age, we all need to hear these words: "I love you without measure." At the Transfiguration, the Father declared of Jesus, *"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased"* (Matthew 17:5). He means those words for us as well. Before all else, we are God's beloved children.

Significantly, the Father speaks these words before Jesus goes to the Cross, before His saving mission is complete. We often reverse that order, allowing our identity to depend on our accomplishments or faithfulness. We assume God will love us once we have fulfilled our mission. But the Gospel reveals the opposite. God's love is not earned but freely given. Our mission flows from our identity, not the other way around.

"For I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine" (Isaiah 43:1).

Be Like Christ. Love Like Christ.

What does it mean to "be like Christ" in the context of our everyday lives? The key is to love as He loves. Here are five practical ways to love like Jesus.

Learn His pattern. The Gospels show us how Jesus responded to the sick, the brokenhearted, the marginalized, and even His enemies. Scripture provides the pattern, while prayer and the Sacraments provide the grace to live it. The more we immerse ourselves in Christ's life, the more naturally His way of loving becomes our own.

Cultivate His heart. Jesus describes Himself as *"gentle and humble of heart"* (Matthew 11:29). His humility comes from His complete obedience to the Father's will. His gentleness is strength under perfect self-control, expressed in His patience, mercy, and compassion, even toward those who rejected Him. As we imitate His way of love, our own hearts are slowly transformed as His.

Show genuine interest. Jesus often asked open-ended questions, not because He lacked the answers, but to draw people out. *"What do you seek?"* (John 1:38). *"What are you discussing with each other?"* (Luke 24:17) Genuine love begins with genuine interest. Asking thoughtful questions communicates that people are seen, heard, and valued.

Choose the charitable interpretation. St. Theresa Margaret of the Sacred Heart wrote, "If the actions of our neighbors have a hundred sides, we ought always to look at them on the best side." Love resists rushing to judgment and gives others the benefit of the doubt, creating space for understanding rather than suspicion.

"Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls" (Matthew 11:29).

Always act out of love. St. Paul exhorts us, *"Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God"* (1 Corinthians 10:31). Jesus lived every moment in perfect love for His Father and for us. Love was not merely one aspect of His life; *it* was the motive behind everything He did. Following Christ means allowing love to shape not only our greatest sacrifices but also our smallest daily actions.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics pray formula prayers?

Formula prayers are not a substitute for personal prayer but a time-tested way of entering into it and deepening it. When the disciples asked Jesus how to pray, He gave them the Our Father (Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4), a prayer to be prayed repeatedly. Scripture also contains many communal prayers, especially the Psalms, which served as Israel's prayer book and remain the Church's today. By praying these inspired words, Catholics join generations of believers in worship. Whether at Mass or beside a hospital bed, formula prayers unite the faithful, expressing not only personal devotion but also the shared faith of the whole Church.

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What to do when you don't feel like praying

Not feeling like praying is something even faithful Christians experience. In fact, seasons of dryness can be a normal part of spiritual growth. While they may have different causes, they do not necessarily mean something is wrong. Here are three ways to respond:

Pray about not wanting to pray. Bring your reluctance to God. You don't have to overcome your feelings before coming to Him. Honest prayer is still prayer, and God meets you with love exactly where you are.

Keep it simple. We value brief messages from those we love: "I love you," "Good luck today," or "Thinking of you." Prayer can be that simple. The goal is relationship, not length. A heartfelt "God, help me," "Jesus, I trust in You," or "Come, Holy Spirit" is enough.

Choose presence over performance. Approach prayer the way you would spending time with a close friend. We don't cancel plans with someone we love simply because we're tired.

In the same way, keep showing up. God delights in your company (Proverbs 8:31). He is not looking for a perfect performance but for a heart that continues to seek Him, even when prayer feels dry or difficult.

from Scripture — Matthew 16:21-27, God's ways are not our ways

At first glance, this passage seems like bad news. Jesus predicts His own death, a revelation that must have stunned the disciples. They had just come to recognize Him as the long-awaited Messiah. Instead of leading a triumphant victory over Rome, Jesus spoke of suffering, rejection, and execution. To them, it looked like failure, not triumph.

Peter responded as many of us do when faced with suffering: he resisted the Cross. He wanted Jesus to avoid it and was sharply rebuked. Yet had Jesus turned aside, we would have remained in our sins, separated from God. Instead, He freely embraced the Cross. He chose us. From the perspective of the Resurrection, what appeared to be defeat was in fact Christ's decisive victory over sin and death.

God desires our happiness, not merely our temporary comfort. He desires our eternal joy. The Christian life is not about avoiding the crosses God permits but embracing them with trust, as Jesus did. And we never carry them alone. Christ walks beside us, bearing the heavier end of every cross.

Feasts & Celebrations

August 7—St. Cajetan (1547). St. Cajetan was born in Italy to a noble family. He went on to study civil and canon (Church) law at the University of Padua. He worked to reform the Church by founding the Theatines, a religious order modeled on the teachings of the Apostles.

August 9—St. Edith Stein (1942). Formerly Jewish, she was an atheist intellectual in Germany. After studying St. Teresa of Ávila, she converted to Catholicism, and became a Carmelite nun. Although her order tried to shelter her from the Nazis, she was taken to and executed at Auschwitz.

August 15—The Assumption of Mary. Declared a dogma of faith in 1950 by Pope Pius XII, the Assumption celebrates Mary's being taken up into Heaven body and soul at the end of her life. This feast highlights the Church's respect for the dignity of the body in view of our future resurrection. Note: This year, it is not a holy day of obligation.

August 24—St. Bartholomew (First Century). One of the Twelve Apostles and the son of Tolomai, Bartholomew is thought by some scholars to be the apostle, Nathanael, who went with Philip to see Jesus. After Jesus's Ascension, Nathanael spread Christianity to India and in Armenia, where he was martyred. He is the patron saint of Armenia and Belgium.

Q & A — Can the Pope make mistakes if he's infallible?

Yes. The pope is human and, like anyone else, can make mistakes in his personal opinions, decisions, or everyday statements. Papal infallibility does not mean the pope is incapable of error. Rather, it means that, under specific conditions, the Holy Spirit preserves him from definitively teaching error in matters of faith and morals (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 891).

Papal infallibility applies only when the pope is:

Defining a doctrine of faith or morals. The teaching must concern divine revelation or truths closely connected to it. It does not apply to scientific claims, political views, interviews, homilies, or personal opinions. For example, in 1950, Pope Pius XII infallibly defined the dogma of Mary's Assumption into heaven.

Speaking ex cathedra ("from the chair"). The pope must speak in his official capacity as the successor of St. Peter and clearly intend to proclaim a doctrine that is binding on the entire Church. In *Munificentissimus Deus*, Pope Pius XII explicitly invoked his apostolic authority to "pronounce, declare, and define" the Assumption as a divinely revealed dogma.

Our Mission

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