August 30, 2026

# St. Francis of Assisi Parish

## 1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 13901

# Living Water

## Season of Creation 2026

**Immersion in Living Water**

EZEKIEL 47:9, 12

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 29, Vigil of Sunday**
4:00 p.m. Jim, Dorie, & Jodi Rhoades by Family
**Sunday, August 30, Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**
10:30 a.m. Lorenzo Altadonna by Family
**Monday, August 31 – (please note time change)**
8:00 a.m. Mary Williams by Cathy & Ron Hamilton
**Tuesday, September 1**
8:00 a.m. Anna DeLuca by Family
**Wednesday, September 2**
8:00 a.m. Patricia Winfield by John & Brenda Artman (**please note time change)**
**Thursday, September 3**
**NO MASS**
**Friday, September 4**
**NO MASS**
**Saturday, September 5, Vigil of Sunday**
4:00 p.m. Olivia Curtin by Suzanne & Don Carr
**Sunday, September 6, Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**
10:30 a.m. Stephanie Stracuzzi by 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 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 (08-24-26)

| | |
|---|---|
| Ordinary Contributions | $6,284 |
| Loose Cash | $299 |
| Repair & Maintenance | $2,222 |
| Catherine's Cupboard | $1,295 |
| Catholic Schools | $50 |
| Other | $548 |
| Capital Campaign | $55 |
| **Total Contributions** | **$10,753** |
| Ordinary Expenses | $8,463 |
| Repair & Maintenance | $467 |
| Catherine's Cupboard | $532 |
| Capital Improvements | $0 |
| **Total Expenses** | **$9,462** |
| **TOTAL** | **$1,291** |

## Faith Formation

**Faith Formation Information for 2026-27 have been mailed, if you do not receive it please pick up a form on the usher's table in the back of the church or download it from our website under the Faith Formation tab. If you have any questions please contact our Director of Faith Formation, Sherry Dee.**

**Looking Ahead:**
Faith Formation kick-off is on **September 20th** at the Parish Picnic. **Classes begin September 27th**.

## *ATTENTION: Lectors, EMs & Altar Servers*

It is time again to make the schedule for October, November, and December. If there are weekends when you are **not** available to Lector, Eucharistic Minister, or Altar Serve, let us know. Call Ed and Cindy White at 607-222-4703 or 607-206-3469 **BEFORE SEPTEMBER 29TH!**

## *IMPORTANT* ATTENTION PARISHIONERS: Safe Environment Training

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

### Upcoming Safe Environment Trainings

**Initial Safe Environment Training**

- **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**

- **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/)

## Season of Creation 2026

The Season of Creation is the annual Christian celebration to pray and respond together to the cry of Creation: the ecumenical family around the world unites to contemplate and care for our common home.

The Season's "Celebration" begins on September 1, the day that several Christian denominations celebrate as the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and others celebrate as the Feast of Creation. It ends on October 4, the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, who is beloved by many Christian denominations.

This year, we will unite around the theme "Living Water", with the symbol "Immersion in Living Water", inspired by Ezekiel47:9 and12.

This year's theme, "Living Water", explores Ezekiel 47:9 and 12 as a powerful biblical vision of hope and ecological healing. Set amid exile and loss, the image of living water flowing from God's sanctuary reveals divine healing that renews land, water, biodiversity, and human responsibility towards the whole creation.

The symbol depicts water flowing from the Temple of God - at first a tiny stream that grows deeper, and deeper and as it does so, it brings life to dead areas and restores fertility to damaged or barren ecosystems. Through living water comes healing; but in order to receive new life, we too must step into the water and also become part of God's river of life, taking part in the healing of creation.

## 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time: Creation Care Tip

*"For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life?"* —Matthew 16:26

Pope Francis wrote in Laudato Si', "Christian spirituality proposes … a capacity to be happy with little. It is a return to that simplicity which allows us to stop and appreciate the small things, to be grateful for the opportunities which life affords us, to be spiritually detached from what we possess, and not to succumb to sadness for what we lack." Name one possession of yours which is "possessing you." Get rid of it if it is causing you to forfeit your life in any manner.

## 22nd Sunday in Ordinary: Justice Challenge

The Gospel for Sunday reminds us that discipleship isn't easy. It will often require us to share in the Cross of Jesus. We are called to deny ourselves, to lose our lives for the sake of the Gospel. Your challenge this week is to take up your cross and walk in solidarity with someone who suffers on a daily basis. Can you journey with someone who is poor or homeless, someone who is a victim of prejudice or discrimination, an undocumented immigrant, or someone in prison? Reflect on someone who is in deep physical, emotional or spiritual pain, and offer up your own suffering this week for that person.

## 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!

## Preaching the Gospel in Time of the Ongoing Genocide in Gaza

A zoom conversation with three prominent guests about what is ours to do 1,000 days into the genocide in Gaza. The online conversation with: Cardinal Ramazzini; Fr. David Neuhaus; and - still-to-be-confirmed - one of the leading scholars on genocide.

The virtual event is scheduled for Monday, August 31 at 12 Noon to 1:00PM EST.

**Discover the Secular Franciscan Order**

A welcoming community for Catholics seeking to live their faith more deeply in everyday life

- Fourth Saturday monthly
- St. Francis of Assisi Church

Contact Louis Alfonsetti:
607-768-6685 | ealfonse@stny.rr.com

## Deacon Steve's Notes

✝OCIA will begin on Sunday, September 13th at 9:15 am in the dining room of the Parish Center. If you are Baptized but have not yet been Confirmed this would be a good opportunity to receive this Sacrament.

✝Altar Server Training – Any child you has received First Communion is eligible to become an Altar Server. There will be a one hour training session on Saturday, September 19th at 9 am in the Church. A parent or guardian must be present.

✝New Lectors and Eucharistic ministers are always welcome. We will offer a training session as required.

Please contact the Parish Office or Deacon Steve at 607-206-4022 if you have any questions or are interested in joining.

## Are You Hurting in Your Marriage?

Has your marriage become troubled, unloving/uncaring; has it grown cold and distant; are you thinking of or already separated or divorced but want to try again, then the Retrouvaille Program can help you. Call 1-800-470-2230 or visit **HelpOurMarriage.com**

## Catherine's Cupboard Distribution Volunteer Schedule
## September 1st

| 1:00—3:00PM | 5:00PM—Until Served |
|---|---|
| M. & D. Cole, and K. & T. Barnhart | K. Dotson, G. Pendleton, G. Thompson, M. 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***

## 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

## UPCENTER WEEKLY MEALS (Update)

Dinners for the homeless at the overnight shelter are going well. We have finished our 2nd month now and are getting into a good routine. THANK YOU for all those stepping up and giving us support of time or money on this worthwhile cause. On October 1st new leadership will be taking over so we're not sure if we will be needed or not. However, as for now, if you want to help and have free time volunteers are needed, especially Thursday thru Sunday evenings from 5:00PM—7:00PM.

To volunteer go to:
www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0A48A5A62EA0F94-64744411-evening#/

Stay tuned for further information as we hear if we will continue this service beyond September 30th.

## Birthright of Binghamton Needs Your Help

Birthright of Binghamton is looking for volunteers to assist with office work and to help clients. Birthright supports pregnant women, moms, and their babies. There will be an information meeting for all who are interested in this mission of love and compassion. If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering, please call Diane Yajko at (607)798-7661.

## The Silver Circle Membership

The silver circle is a membership program that benefits retires Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM) Sisters. For only $25/membership, your name is entered in more than 324 drawings from October 2026—June 2027 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. To acquire a Silver Circle Membership form, sent a text to: Sister Kathleen Joy Steck, I.H.M **(607)237-5653**. Or request the form by mail at: **Sister Kathleen Joy Steck, IHM, Our Lady of Peace Residence, 2300 Adams Ave., Scranton, PA 18509**. Thank You for supporting the Immaculate Heart of Mary Sisters.


AVAILABLE NOW!
PRINT & DIGITAL AD SPACES

**Build your business and help us grow a vibrant faith community!**

**Clare Colamaria** from LPi, our bulletin printer, will be securing new ads for our church in the coming weeks. As a valuable member of the business community, we invite you to expand your reach and grow your business with a print ad in our parish bulletin and/or a digital ad featured on ParishesOnline.com.

LPi
Clare Colamaria
(216) 325-6825 x6444
CColamaria@4lpi.com

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

**September 5th & 6th, 2026**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 4:00 Mass | Altar Server | Kylie Murphy |
| 4:00 Mass | Altar Server | McKenzie Murphy |
| 4:00 Mass | Altar Server | TBD |
| 4:00 Mass | Lector | Maria Kirk |
| 4:00 Mass | EM Host | Deacon Steve |
| 4:00 Mass | EM Host | Kelly Robertson |
| 4:00 Mass | EM Host | Larry Koch |
| 4:00 Mass | EM Cup | Suzanne Carr |
| 4:00 Mass | EM Cup | Mary DeNinins |
| | | |
| 10:30 Mass | Altar Server | William Keough |
| 10:30 Mass | Altar Server | Everette Ciaccio |
| 10:30 Mass | Altar Server | Elena Ciaccio |
| 10:30 Mass | Lector | Ildiko Mitchell |
| 10:30 Mass | EM Host | Deacon Steve |
| 10:30 Mass | EM Host | Jim Clune |
| 10:30 Mass | EM Host | Ann Clune |
| 10:30 Mass | EM Cup | Ede Blabac |
| 10:30 Mass | EM Cup | Anne Wolanski |

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## 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**: Jesus tells us that we each called to follow him. What is hard for you to do to follow Jesus?

**Question for Youth**: In order to follow Jesus, we have to do hard things, to carry our own crosses. What is a cross that you are carrying right now? In what ways can you ask Jesus to help you with your cross?

**Question for Adults**: Jesus gives us the core truth to life and eternal happiness — the cross. Name the cross that you carry. How is it bringing you closer to God?