

September 03, 2023

# St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 13901



*Enlightened by grace  
and taught the faith by the chosen  
vessel of Christ,  
you were found worthy  
of the diaconate  
and you carried  
Paul's words to Rome.  
O Saint Phoebe,  
pray to Christ God  
that his Spirit may  
enlighten our souls  
and guide the discernment of the  
Church that the gifts  
and voices of women  
may be received and affirmed in  
our day for the service  
of your people!  
Saint Paul proclaimed you  
a protector of many,  
and you became his helper.  
Rejoice, Saint Phoebe.*

"St. Phoebe" ©2023 Br. Mickey McGrath. Used with permission, NonCommercial-No-Derivatives.

## **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](http://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, September 2, Vigil of Sunday**  
4:00 p.m. 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniv. Ronald & Ronetta Decosse

**Sunday, September 3, Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

10:30 a.m. Antonio DeLuca by Family

**Monday, September 4, Labor Day**

**NO MASS**

**Tuesday, September 5**

8:00 a.m. Linda Sebastianelli by St. Francis Special Sunshine Committee

**Wednesday, September 6**

12:00 p.m. Ronald Antonyak by Carolyn Scoville

**Thursday, September 7**

8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People

**Friday, September 8**

**NO MASS**

**Saturday, September 9, Vigil of Sunday**

4:00 p.m. **Special Intention** – For all Grandparents by The Paske Family

**Sunday, September 10, Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

10:30 a.m. John & Mary Zulko 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 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](http://stfrancisbing.org)**

### **Weekend's Offering (08-20-23)**

Regular Envelopes.....	\$2,940.00
Loose Collection.....	\$340.00
Electronic Collection.....	\$1,902.00
<b>Total Collection.....</b>	<b>\$5,182.00</b>

### **FAITH FORMATION**

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

2023/2024 Faith Formation Registration letters and info have been sent out and is also on the website. **Faith Formation will begin September 17th** with a family event in the parish hall focusing on the Eucharist. **Mark your calendars!**

### **Maui Relief Special Collection**

Our thoughts and prayers are with all those affected by the devastating wildfires that have ravaged the island of Maui. As a community of faith, we are called to come together and provide unwavering support to those who are suffering. It is in times like these that our collective love, faith and compassion can make a tremendous difference. Many have inquired if we can take up a collection for relief. I invite you to contribute to a second collection on **September 9th & 10th**. Checks can be made out to Diocese of Syracuse - Maui Relief and mailed to the Finance Office, 240 East Onondaga Street, Syracuse New York 13202. The funds will be sent to The Hawaii Catholic Community Foundation which is a non profit corporation to support parish and school communities. Contributions will go directly to HCCF to support relief efforts for community members affected by the wildfires.

### **22nd Sunday Ordinary Time: 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 or emotional or spiritual pain, and offer your own suffering for that person.

### **22nd Sunday Ordinary Time: Creation Care**

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.

### **\*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 607-648-2784 or by cell 607-206-3469 **BEFORE SEPTEMBER 11TH!** Thanks

## **For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission**

This upcoming October the Synod in Rome will be held. This convening is a major event in the church, and it comes after the universal listening sessions that took place two years ago. In the bulletin there will be a regular information about this Synod, and what it means for the church. "It is precisely this path of synodality which God expects of the Church of the third millennium." —Pope Francis

**The Holy Spirit's in charge.** The Holy Spirit guides, teaches, corrects and surprises. That means decision-makers practice listening for and to that still, small voice. That means the only agenda is carrying out what God wants. It means listening for that voice coming from many peoples, situations and disciplines. It means doing what the Spirit indicates is right, being faithful to God and to serving God's people as beacons of hope

## **Parish Events to Remember for September**

### **Wed., Sept. 6th @ 7PM: St. Phoebe Prayer Service**

A prayer service for St. Phoebe will be held at the church in the parish hall at 6PM. This will be open to the area parishes and there will be a speaker.

### **Sun., Sept. 10th: Parish Picnic**

Our parish picnic will take place from 12:30—3:30pm at the First Ukrainian Pentecostal Grounds.

### **Sun., Sept. 24th @ 4PM: Chaplain Norris Burkes**



Chaplain Norris Burkes, a national columnist, will be giving a talk here in our parish hall. Norris Burkes is a freelance writer and spiritual columnist. His articles are featured weekly in the Saturday Press-Connects. His column takes a spiritual, often comical—if not irreverent—look at everyday life. Don't miss this event! Catch his columns in the upcoming Saturday paper. Chaplain Norris Burkes began his chaplain career with both the active duty Air Force and the Air National Guard until his retirement in 2014. He served as a combat hospital chaplain in Iraq with additional deployments to Saudi Arabia and Panama. Concurrent to his military service, he served as a board-certified healthcare chaplain at Sutter Memorial, Kaiser, Methodist and Mather VA hospital. He entered official retired life on July 1, 2017. Highlighting his chaplain work, Burkes writes a spirituality column that offers a humorous and hope-filled approach to everyday spirituality and is syndicated in 35 additional papers nationwide. He recently published a book retelling the best of his newspaper columns called "Thriving Beyond Surviving." He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in religion and journalism and has a Master of Divinity degree and a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing. He authored, "Hero's Highway" and "No Small Miracles."

**Join us for his talk entitled, "Laughing through loss, love, and life."**

## **Installation of EV Charging Stations**

In the not too distant future, you will see something new in our parking lots. St. Francis of Assisi will be installing EV (electric vehicle) charging stations in our Church and Parish Center lots. An EV charging station is a piece of equipment that allows folks that have electric or plug-in hybrid cars to charge their vehicles. There are quite a few environmental reasons why this is a project that St. Francis of Assisi is undertaking, but there is going to be a need for an increased number of these stations because there is going to be an increasing number of electric cars. So you may ask yourselves why should a church, our church, be involved in something like this? Most importantly, installing EV chargers signals a commitment to our community and clean air. This initiative responds directly to several sections of Pope Francis's Laudato Si' encyclical:

- ☛ **The Cry of the Earth**- we would helping support the reduction of emissions
- ☛ **The Cry of the Poor**- these stations would be accessible to the disadvantaged in our community
- ☛ **Ecological Economics**- by installing these stations we as a Parish are treating the economy as a subsystem of Earth's larger ecosystem, emphasizing the preservation of our natural resources
- ☛ **Adopting Sustainable Lifestyles**- this convenience at the Parish makes adopting a sustainable lifestyle easier for our parishioners.
- ☛ **Community Engagement and Sustainable Lifestyles** – the Parish is practicing what it preaches by not just supporting, but by taking proactive steps toward sustainability.

Because the Parish is in a disadvantaged area the cost to the Parish is minimal and the benefits to the earth are significant. We expect installation in early Spring 2024.

## **Brooks Fundraiser Carbon Impact Donation**

On June 30th the Creation Care Team held a Brook's Barbeque Fundraiser. The proceeds from this fundraiser are intended to support projects that reduce our carbon footprint. There are few activities that we, as human beings, engage in that are carbon neutral. The Brook's Barbeque was not a carbon neutral event. As good stewards of the environment mind we will donate \$500 (roughly double the value of our negative impact) of our \$2,700 profits to CathCap to offset our ecological damage from the event.

## **Creation Care Team CathCap Donations**

To make a donation please go to this site:  
[www.cathcap.org](http://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.

You may also donate directly by visiting the online giving page on our website, [stfrancisbing.org](http://stfrancisbing.org)

For questions or more information contact  
Kay Corcoran: [edwardcorcoran719@yahoo.com](mailto:edwardcorcoran719@yahoo.com)  
or Anne Wolanski: [annewolanski@gmail.com](mailto:annewolanski@gmail.com)

## Catherine's Cupboard Distribution Volunteer Schedule

**September 5th:** M. Lyons, M. Mizzoni, A. & S. Faughnan

## BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

### A journey from grief to healing

For those who are living through the loss of a loved one, our highly successful support group provides a safe space to share ideas, thoughts and experiences that can lead to healing. This is one of life's most difficult journeys and there is no need to travel it alone. New knowledge, skills and perceptions can ease your way to move on without your loved one. This 9 week program will begin on Tuesday September 19th from 6 to 7:30 pm at The St. Francis of Assisi Parish Center. Seating is limited so please register early. For more information and to register, please call Ginny Thompson at 607-222-1621 and leave a message if necessary.

## Bans of Marriage

Congratulations and best wishes to **Lauren Guth and Holden Gray** who will be married soon. May God bless them and their marriage.

## Hospital Visitation

Please remember, if you or another parishioner gets admitted to either Binghamton General Hospital or UHS Wilson Medical Center and you wish to be visited by Fr. Tim you **MUST to tell someone or call the parish center**. You should indicate that you are Catholic and belong to St. Francis of Assisi parish and that you wish to be visited by Fr. Tim or another Clergy member if you wish.

## Bible Study with the Bible Babes

The Bible Babes will begin studying Judges in mid October. If you are interested call Kathy Tait (607-692-7067) by 09/12 so books can be ordered. We meet in the church hall Tuesdays at 1:30PM.



We will be joining other parishes throughout the Diocese of Syracuse to Kick Off the 2023 HOPE Appeal at Masses on September 9th and 10th. Your continued generosity strengthens our parish and our Church. We look forward to sharing this year's message:

***You Strengthen the Fabric of Our Faith***

## Catherine's Cupboard

Catherine's Cupboard is getting wiped out every distribution day. **Specific items in desperate need to drop off would be condiments, City of Binghamton blue trash bags, and canned goods.** Please **NO items past their expiration date**, we cannot give those out.

## St. Francis of Assisi Parish Picnic 2023

**Sunday, September 10th, 2023**

**Binghamton First Ukrainian Pentecostal Grounds**

**(143 Castle Creek Rd, Binghamton, NY)**

**12:30PM—3:30PM (Serving at 1:00PM)**

PLEASE no early birds, church services go until 12:15  
Meat & drinks provided\* (no alcohol or smoking)

**Please bring place setting and utensils to reduce waste as well as an item to share according to last name...**

**A—D:** Fruit      **E—G:** Potato/Pasta Salad

**H—L:** Appetizers/Snacks      **M—Q:** Veggies

**R—Z:** Dessert

**RSVP:**

Please take a flyer located in the back of the church and follow the instructions to RSVP physically or scan the QR code/visit the link below to RSVP online  
[stfrancisbing.org/parish-picnic-registration-2023](http://stfrancisbing.org/parish-picnic-registration-2023)



## Thanksgiving Basket Sign-up Information

Individuals and families living in Broome County will have the opportunity to sign-up for a Thanksgiving basket. Baskets will include all the items needed for a wonderful holiday meal. **Sign-ups for baskets will take place September 6th through October 13th, 2023. Sign-ups will be held by calling the United Way 211 phone number (dial 2-1-1) from Monday -Friday 7:30AM to 4:30PM beginning the Wednesday after Labor Day.** Each household will receive a confirmation number from 211. **The confirmation number will be needed to pick up the basket.** One Thanksgiving basket will be provided per household. Please have information on hand for every person within the household prior to making the 211 call. All families signed-up for a basket will receive a phone call or mailed document 1 to 2 weeks prior to Thanksgiving Day. This will provide information on date, time and location of the basket pick up. **Families should expect to pick up their baskets the weekend of November 17th to November 19th, 2023.** The Thanksgiving basket coordination program is a joint effort between Catholic Charities, United Way 211, local parishes, iHeart Media and several other local contributing businesses. For additional information please contact Hannah Burge at 729-9166.

**St. Francis of Assisi Lectors,  
Eucharistic Ministers & Altar Servers**  
**September 9th & 10th, 2023**

4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Calliope Brennan
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Thalia Brennan
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	TBD
4:00 Mass	Lector	Kathleen Tait
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Marge Mangan
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Beatrice Grace
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Robert Grace
4:00 Mass	EM Cup	Deb Carden
4:00 Mass	EM Cup	Nancy Oliver
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Abraham Watkins
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Alexander Watkins
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	TBD
10:30 Mass	Lector	George Clark
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Anne Wolanski
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Donna Igler
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Scott Igler
10:30 Mass	EM Cup	Maureen Mizzoni
10:30 Mass	EM Cup	David Hanzes

**Children's Liturgy of the Word Schedule**

CHILDREN'S LITURGY IS **ONLINE ONLY**

**WATCH MRS. BLABAC WEEKLY ONLINE**

**[www.youtube.com/@stfrancisbing](http://www.youtube.com/@stfrancisbing)**

**\*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?

# 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 **September 03, 2023**

**Deliver 300 copies to St. Francis of Assisi.**

# Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

September 2023

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

## One Minute Meditations

### St. Padre Pio

Born to farmers in 1887, in southern Italy,

Francesco

Forgione joined the Capuchin Friars at the age of 15, taking the name "Pio." In 1918, St. Pio received the five wounds of Our Lord's Passion, called the stigmata, in his body. Renowned for his preaching, holiness, and charity, thousands flocked to him for Confession and spiritual direction. Amidst his suffering, he continued to labor for the spiritual and physical well-being of others, founding a hospital that still operates today.



### Perfect is possible

Jesus said, "... be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:48). Perfection to Jesus means loving God with all our hearts, praying for our enemies, and taking care of the poor. Love and service is the true measure of perfection.

*"Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor"* Romans

12:9-10.



## Seven virtues for successful Catholics

Practicing virtues – habitual and firm dispositions to do good – leads to long-lasting interior freedom, joy, and peace. The following seven virtues, with God's grace, can help you do that:

Faith enables our belief in God and all that He has revealed through Scripture, Tradition, and the Church's teachings. Reciting the Creed, especially at Mass, is an act of faith.

Hope is the desire for Heaven and trust in God's promises to us. Trusting in the Lord even in trials and asking for forgiveness for sins are acts of hope.

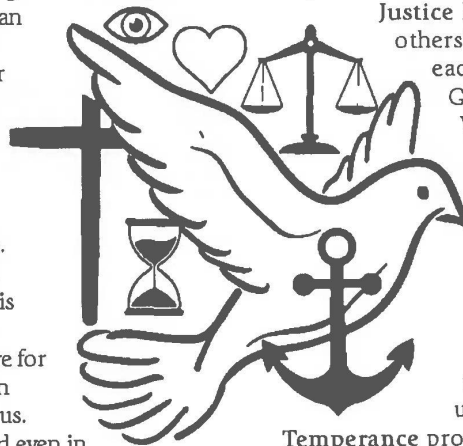
Charity enables us to love God above all things and our neighbors as ourselves. True love is when we wish – and act for – the authentic good of others.

Prudence is the virtue that helps us to discern our true good in every circumstance and to choose the right means of achieving it.

Justice helps us respect others' rights and give to each his due. We owe God our worship. We are made in His image, so we owe each other respect.

Fortitude strengthens us to follow Christ in the world, even if it's unpopular and uncomfortable.

Temperance properly orders our desire for pleasure, so that we appreciate earthly goods in moderation and value heavenly goods most. Observing the one-hour fast from food before receiving the Eucharist is an act of temperance.



## Why Do Catholics Do That?

### Why do Catholics attend Mass on holy days of obligation?

Throughout the year, the Church celebrates six feasts that honor a central mystery of our faith with extra enthusiasm. These days are so important that all Catholics are required to attend Mass to celebrate. They are listed on the US Conference of

Catholic Bishops' website, <http://www.usccb.org>.

All Sundays are also holy days of obligation. We live the third commandment to honor the Sabbath by attending Mass every Sunday.

Celebrating these holy days is a reminder that we belong firstly to God.

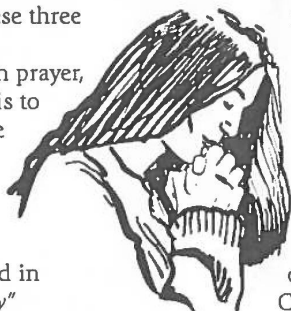


## Finding time for powerful prayer

If you struggle to find time to pray, try these three tips:

**Prioritize.** Much unseen good depends on prayer, and it's as critical to our souls as breathing is to the body. Jesus corrected St. Martha because she lost sight of *"the one thing...needful"* (Luke 10:41-42). Reserve time for daily prayer. Treat it as an important appointment – because it is.

**Set boundaries.** Jesus dismissed the crowd in the evening and *"went up into the hills to pray"*



(Matthew 14:23). Give God your undivided attention in prayer for whatever time you can. Be fully present, minimizing distractions. Let the world wait while you spend time with the One who loves you most.

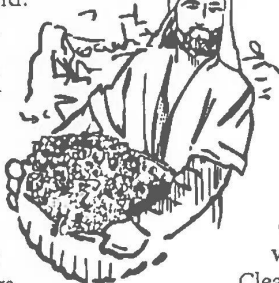
**Activate your work.** Few of us have the luxury of being able to spend all day in prayer but we can make a morning offering, giving our day to God's service. Entrust all the events, tasks, and concerns of the day to God's mercy and providence. This way, our work is made holy and can help bring souls to Christ.

### from Scripture

#### Matthew 20:1-16a, The generous landowner

In this Gospel reading, Jesus told a parable in which He compared God's kingdom to a vineyard in the charge of a generous landlord. In the parable, the landlord hires groups of workers at various times of the day. All agree with the landlord to work for a "fair wage."

The vineyard is God's kingdom and God is the generous landlord. Some Bible scholars propose that the earlier groups of workers represented the Jewish people, who had followed God's laws for thousands of years, while the Gentiles were the latecomers. The workers also stood for



those whom God calls at various stages of life: from infancy, adolescence, adulthood, and old age.

Then the landlord paid the laborers, beginning with the five o'clock workers. It must have shocked Jesus' listeners to hear that the landlord paid those who worked one hour as if they'd worked for twelve hours.

Clearly, God's idea of a "fair" wage is not the same as ours. What is important is not how many hours we've served God, but if we answered Him when He called us.

### Q & A What's the proper way to show reverence before I receive Communion?

In days past, everyone approached the altar, knelt at the altar rail and received the host on our tongues. That was prescribed as a posture of reverence to show respect and adoration for the Body and Blood of our Lord.

The bishops in the United States have decided that we may approach the altar and stand to receive Communion. When we approach, we are to bow as a gesture of reverence before we receive the consecrated host from the priest, deacon, or extraordinary minister of Holy Communion.

Today we can receive the host either on the tongue or in the hand. To receive in the hand, we place one hand, palm up, on top of the other to form a "throne." We can also receive Holy Communion in the form of precious Blood. When Holy Communion is offered under both kinds we repeat the bow of our heads before receiving each one.

Genuflection is appropriate at other times. For example, we genuflect before the tabernacle containing the Blessed Sacrament.

**Our Mission**  
To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.  
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### Feasts & Celebrations

**September 1 – St. Giles (710).** Shrouded in mystery, St. Giles was a hermit who lived near the Rhône River in France. His fame as a miracle worker drew crowds and disciples to him. Eventually, St. Giles became abbot of a monastery.

**September 8 – Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.** Mary's birth brought her parents joy, and we are joyful too – because Mary brings salvation to all of us with the birth of Jesus.

**September 14 – The Exaltation of the Holy Cross (c.326).** St. Helena, mother

of Emperor Constantine, discovered what is believed to be the Cross of Christ while on pilgrimage in Jerusalem. Constantine built the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher on the site.

**September 28 – St. Wenceslaus (929).** Raised by his devout grandmother, St. Ludmilla, "The Good King" St. Wenceslaus worked to end Christian persecution in Bohemia, encouraged German missionaries, built churches, and cared for the sick and poor. He was martyred by a group of dissatisfied nobles, led by his brother, Boleslaus.

