

November 19, 2023

# St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 13901

# HAPPY THANKSGIVING

*Give Thanks*



St. Francis of Assisi Parish is a Eucharistic faith community committed to living and sharing the Gospel life.

## Staff

Rev. Timothy Taugher, Pastor  
Deacon Stephen Blabac  
Delores A. Farwell  
Parish Administrative Assistant  
Maria Kirk  
Director of Faith Formation  
Joseph Carpenter  
Parish Business Administrator  
Suzanne Ekstrom  
Parish Media Manager  
Edmund Savo  
Organist  
Fred Hazlett  
Maintenance/Groundskeeper  
Tina Silvestri  
Housekeeper  
Brendan Kliment  
Sarah & Mary Bush  
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](mailto:stfrancisbing@syrdio.org)

## Website:

[www.stfrancisbing.org](http://www.stfrancisbing.org)

Please go online to  
**[stfrancisbing.org](http://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](https://www.facebook.com/stfrancisbing)**  
for more information



**Saturday, November 18, Vigil of Sunday**

4:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus Memorial Mass  
#11403

**Sunday, November 19, Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

10:30 a.m. Regina Chabin by St. Francis Special  
Sunshine Committee

**Monday, November 20**

**NO MASS**

**Tuesday, November 21**

8:00 a.m. Stephanie Stracuzzi by Judy & Gordon  
Ruston

**Wednesday, November 22**

12:00 p.m. Alexandra Renee' Scott by David  
Walsh

**Thursday, November 23, Thanksgiving Day  
(Liturgy in Church)**

9:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People

**Friday, November 24**

**NO MASS**

**Saturday, November 25, Vigil of Sunday**

4:00 p.m. Sebastian & Betty Parasiliti by  
Daughter, Pattie & Family

**Sunday, November 26, Our Lord Jesus Christ,  
King of the Universe**

10:30 a.m. Kathleen Murray 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 (11-12-23)**

Regular Envelopes.....	\$4,300.00
Loose Collection.....	\$300.00
Electronic Collection.....	\$1,900.00
Total Collection.....	\$6,500.00

### **FAITH FORMATION**

**Faith formation for Grades K-9 will begin with a Thanksgiving Prayer Service in the Church, followed by Circles of Care.**

#### **Looking Ahead:**

†No Faith Formation Classes on November 27th. Happy Thanksgiving!

†Faith formation for Grades K-9 will resume on December 3rd 9AM—10:15AM.

#### **Confirmation 2024:**

†Session 2 will meet Sunday, December 3, 11:30AM—2PM

†Confirmation Rite of Acceptance will be held on Sunday December 10th at 10:30AM Mass.

†Our Annual Faith Formation Christmas Program will be held Sunday, December 17th.

### **Ecumenical Prayer Service at Ogden Methodist Church Tonight, November 19th at 6:00PM**

### **33rd Sunday Ordinary Time: Justice Challenge**

The Sunday gospel focuses on the gifts which God gives to each one of us. We are called to use our talents and gifts, not hide or neglect them. And God always wants us to share what He has given to us with the most vulnerable. Your challenge this week is to share one of your special talents with someone in need. If you have the gift of speaking, perhaps you could make a call to your legislators, asking them to support bills which ensure food security for all. If you have a gift for music, consider visiting a homeless shelter or nursing home and brightening residents' day with song. If you are talented in sports, call a family shelter and offer to organize a game for the children. If finances are your field of expertise, offer your services to a service organization which is doing fund-raising. Share your God-given gifts with others so your light can shine for all to see!

### **33rd Sunday Ordinary Time: Creation Care Tip**

With Thanksgiving this week, your thoughts might be turning to the holiday season. Take the opportunity to begin a conversation with friends and family about gift-giving expectations this year. What might you do differently to cut down on the unsustainable practice of buying and consuming so much for a holiday that marks the birth of a poor child in Bethlehem? Check out [AdventConspiracy.org](http://AdventConspiracy.org) for great ideas you can broach at the Thanksgiving table this year.

### **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 Patrick Fitzgerald and Roberta Cushing.



### Caring for God's Creation

As Thanksgiving 2023 is approaching, followed by the season of Advent, can we be aware of the beauty and awe that God brings forth to us through the Earth and express our gratitude and praise? Why? Because God's Earth needs our attention now more than ever before as our Holy Father has very recently reminded us. In an Apostolic Exhortation published last month by our Holy Father Pope Francis titled *Laudate Deum* (Praise God), we are asked to "...give thanks for God's wondrous creation, within which, God has united us to all his creatures." The Exhortation continues, "...with the passage of time, I have realized that our responses have not been adequate, while the world in which we live is collapsing and may be nearing the breaking point. In addition to this possibility, it is indubitable that the impact of climate change will increasingly prejudice the lives and families of many persons. We will feel its effects in the areas of healthcare, sources of employment, access to resources, housing, forced migrations, etc." As Thanksgiving approaches, let us consider two actions, first that we pray more fervently. May our leaders and communities heed the Holy Spirit's guidance to care for our only home, God's earth. And may we as God's people turn away from greed and power and recommit ourselves to love and justice as Jesus has taught us. Second, may we take some time to reflect on how we might better listen to the cries of the poor and the earth. Our faith demands that we better care for the natural environment with which we live. In Pope Francis' words, "...every little bit helps, and avoiding an increase of a tenth of a degree in the global temperature would already suffice to alleviate some suffering for many people. Yet what is important is something less quantitative: the need to realize that there are no lasting changes without cultural changes, and there are no cultural changes without personal changes." "Efforts by households to reduce pollution and waste, and to consume with prudence, are creating a new culture. The mere fact that personal, family and community habits are changing is contributing to greater concern about the unfulfilled responsibilities of the political sectors and indignation at the lack of interest shown by the powerful. Let us realize, then, that...we are helping to bring about large processes of transformation rising from deep within society." You can read *Laudate Deum* and commit to action by signing the *Laudato Deum* Action plan that can be found at the Catholic Climate Covenant website [catholicclimatecovenant.org](https://catholicclimatecovenant.org)

### BOOK CLUB IS BACK!

Our Advent Book Club will begin on Tuesday, November 28th at 2 PM and 7 PM in the Parish Hall. We will read and discuss "*An Unlikely Advent*" by Rachel Billups. Books are available at the Parish Center for \$10. Join us and make this Advent a faithful and inspiring way to widen your view of Christmas. This Book Club will meet on November 28th, December 5th, 12th and 19th.

### A Time of Giving Thanks!

As we prepare to celebrate the beautiful day of Thanksgiving, know my heart is full of thanks to all of you, the staff and parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi. I am very grateful for the staff of our parish who do so much for me and all of you. For Delores, Maria, Joe, Sue Tina, Fred, Deacon Steve and Ede, and Ed your presence and daily service is so appreciated. So many of you volunteer regularly or give your time when asked. You are a wonderful resource we can depend on that makes it possible to fulfill our parish mission. We are all grateful for your financial support that help us meet our daily expenses, and for those who have fulfilled your capital campaign pledge or are contributing in fulfilling your pledge. The donations these last few weeks of food and turkeys has been tremendous and made it possible to assist those whose needs are great. Catherine's Cupboard depends on volunteers and there are many who are on scene that help unload deliveries, shelf food, and are here on the first and third Tuesday evenings to distribute food. I could go on but just want to thank you to the parish of St. Francis of Assisi and share the gratitude I have in my heart. You make it enjoyable for me to be pastor. Thanks

— *Fr. Tim*

### Thanksgiving Today

What first comes to mind when you think of Thanksgiving? Maybe you remember a special year, perhaps one that would prove to be the last for a beloved family member. Perhaps you think of your grandmother's special pie. Your family may use the holiday to recall your blessings. Others pause to consider what the first Thanksgiving was really like for Indigenous Americans. Whatever family holidays mean to you, you can shape those festivities into memorable occasions for future generations. You can continue priceless practices, but you also have the freedom to introduce some of your own new traditions for Thanksgiving.

### Thanksgiving Prayer

*May the light of our gratitude burn brightly in our hearts and in our world. In the silence of our hearts, let each of us give thanks for all the many gifts that are ours. Let us also be mindful of those today who are not now present with us here: those who have gone before us, those in the present time, and those to be born whom we will love. God of all good gifts, from your holy heart has come a flood of gifts upon us. With uplifted hearts, we gather together to thank you with prayer and with worship of feasting. We are grateful not only for the gift of life itself, but for all the gifts of friendship, love, devotion, and forgiveness that we have shared. May we give our thanks by lives of service, by deeds of hospitality, by kindness to strangers and by concern for one another. We are most grateful this feast day for the way You, our God, are visible to us in one another, in countless daily gifts, in the marvels of creation. We bless you oh God, for the blessings of our lives; and invite you to bless our table and all of the food of this feast that we share. Let us thank the Lord today and all days. Amen.*

## Catherine's Cupboard Distribution Volunteer Schedule

**November 21st:** M. Lyons, M. Mizzoni, A. & S. Faughnan

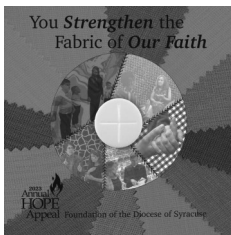
### Thanksgiving Baskets THANK YOU!

WE ARE THANKFUL FOR ALL OF YOU WHO HELPED IN ANY WAY TO PROVIDE 150 BASKETS TO FAMILIES ON NOVEMBER 18TH. Baskets were distributed to the families, and although it was a challenge to complete, St. Francis of Assisi families and our community came through in donations of food, money, and time. Its the most we have ever done and could not be done without everyone's help. Two Seton Catholic students and grandparents from our parish sorted baskets as a service project. A couple strong angels directed traffic during distribution. And 6 of our Confirmation students loaded the baskets into cars. The looks on families faces say it all as they have a dinner to share with their families! THANK YOU!

### Catherine's Cupboard Pantry Update

The number of family's who require our food pantry's assistance each week is getting higher. Now, we have over 70 families who are stopping in to help stretch their funds. As one person recently said to me "I sleep so much better now knowing I have food on my shelves." Your ongoing support is making a difference, so, THANK YOU. We would like to also say THANKS to Apple Hill's, Big Lots, C21 North East/Intergra (formerly Sbarra), Odgen Methodist & Church of Nazarene who continue to drop off great extras that the visitors enjoy.

### 2023 Annual HOPE Appeal



The HOPE Appeal is our Diocesan Appeal campaign to support programs and services throughout our diocese which touches countless lives in every city, town, and rural area in our diocese. When the goal of the HOPE Appeal is achieved we ensure that these programs will

receive the funding that is needed. **Our parish goal for the 2023 HOPE Appeal is \$42,826.**

The overall theme this year is, "You Strengthen the Fabric of our Faith". This year's HOPE Appeal video can be viewed online in one of two ways. You can go to our parish website [stfrancisbing.org](http://stfrancisbing.org) or find it on [syracusediocese.org/hopeappeal/](http://syracusediocese.org/hopeappeal/) You can donate to the HOPE Appeal by going to our parish website and choosing "online giving".

**Donations are appreciated and important!**

### Oplatki (Christmas Wafers)

Oplatki (Christmas Wafers) are available at St. Francis' Parish Center. If you are interested, please call Delores at 722-4388 to reserve a package or stop by and pick some up during regular business hours. No offering taken.



Our Giving Tree will be up **Saturday, November 25th until Sunday, December 10th with over 150 tags.** Please pick a tag and purchase the requested item, then return back to the tree area no later than December 10th. **Please**

**place gifts in gift bags, but not wrapped.**

Gifts will be going to **The Children's Home, Elizabeth Church Manor Nursing home, Jail Ministry, and Birthright of Binghamton.**

This has been a long tradition for our parish and enjoyed by those who give and those who receive. Thanks to our Confirmation students who took this on as a service project. Also, THANK YOU for your generosity!

### Please Support our Fruit Fundraiser

FRESH FROM THE GROVE TO YOU!



Organization: Chenango Valley High School Athletics

Organization ID: 1017215

Sale Dates: 11/13/2023-12/10/2023

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

CV Athletic Club email [cvathleticclub@gmail.com](mailto:cvathleticclub@gmail.com)

**We Appreciate Your Support!**



**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10  
11 AM IN FRONT OF BOSCOV'S**

**FUN RUN FOR A GOOD CLAUS!**

Proceeds to benefit St. John's School  
[binghamtonsantarun.com](http://binghamtonsantarun.com)

### 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.

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

**November 25th & 26th, 2023**

4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Logan Kliment
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	McKenzie Murphy
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	TBD
4:00 Mass	Lector	Joe Carpenter
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Mary Russik
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Carol Danoski
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Mike Stricek
4:00 Mass	EM Cup	Steve Baxter
4:00 Mass	EM Cup	Denise Baxter

10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Abraham Watkins
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Alexander Watkins
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	TBD
10:30 Mass	Lector	Virginia Thompson
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Maureen Mizzoni
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Catherine Shafer
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Anne Wolanski
10:30 Mass	EM Cup	Marie Iobst
10:30 Mass	EM Cup	Shirley McCray

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

**November 19: Patti Klepfer & Toni Robinson**

**November 26: ONLINE ONLY (Thanksgiving)**

**\*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:** Name one talent or gift that God has given you and tell how you have used it.

**Question for Youth:** Name three talents that you have. How can you use these talents in the next week to make someone's life better?

**Question for Adults:** Using Jesus' parable as your starting point, describe in your own words how you are using your own gifts to enrich the reign of God.

# END OF BULLETIN

CHURCH NAME: St. Francis of Assisi  
CITY, STATE: Binghamton, NY  
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Comments:  
Bulletin copy for **November 19, 2023**

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