

November 22, 2020

# St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 13901



## *A Thanksgiving to “Do Better”*

### **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 Heaney  
Nicholas Norton  
Sacristans

### Office Hours:

Monday — Thursday:

7:30 am to 4:30 pm

Friday: Closed

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)

Follow us on FB & Twitter:

[@stfrancisbing](https://www.facebook.com/stfrancisbing)

Please go online to [stfrancisbing.org](http://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, November 21, Vigil of Sunday**  
 4:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus Memorial  
 Mass #11403

**Sunday, November 22, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**

8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People  
 11:00 a.m. Bob Shields by Wife, Betsy

**Monday, November 23**

12:00 p.m. Gerard La Clair by Family

**Tuesday, November 24**

8:00 a.m. Anna Breski by St. Francis  
 Special Sunshine Committee

**Wednesday, November 25**

12:00 p.m. Thomas Husar by Chuck &  
 Mary Guditis

**Thursday, November 26, Thanksgiving Day**

9:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People

**Friday, November 27**

**NO MASS**

**Saturday, November 28, Vigil of Sunday**

4:00p.m. 13<sup>th</sup> Anniv. Ed Farthing by Family

**Sunday, November 29, First Sunday of Advent**

8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People

11:00 a.m. Lorenzo Altadonna by Family

**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 (11-08-20)**

Regular Envelopes.....	\$5,815.00
Loose Collection.....	\$82.00
Electronic Collection.....	\$4,002.00
Total Collection.....	\$9,899.00

*Thank You for your generous contributions!*

**FAITH FORMATION**

**Faith Formation Meets for grades K-9 as usual today, 9:30--10:45 AM.**

**No Faith Formation next weekend November 29th, Happy Thanksgiving!**

**Looking ahead:**

Confirmation 2021 Rite of Acceptance, **December 6th at 11 AM Mass.**

**St. Francis of Assisi Parish**  
**Looking Forward in Faith — Vision 2020**

We are pleased to report on the latest support for our Looking Forward in Faith — Vision 2020 parish capital campaign. Today our pledge total stands at \$483,000. This puts us over the 96% mark on our \$500,000 goal and has been generated through the sacrificial generosity of over 160 households.

Father Tim and the campaign committee wish to sincerely thank all of our donors for their commitment and sacrifice to St. Francis of Assisi. For the convenience of those who may have misplaced their pledge care or confidential return envelope there is a supply of extra brochures, pledge forms, and other material available in the church.

Please keep in mind that we need the support and prayers of all parishioners in order to be truly successful and that we are asking for "equal sacrifice not equal giving." It is just as important to reach our goal as it is to have participation of every able parishioner. If you have not already done so, please consider making your pledge this week. Thank you!

**Special Collection**  
**Catholic Campaign for Human Development**

Please be generous in this week's special collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. In the United States, one in six people lives in poverty. With this collection, you support programs that address the causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for those struggling across the country. In addition, 25% of the funds we collect will remain in our diocese to fund local antipoverty projects. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection and work on the margins. More information about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development can be found at [www.usccb.org/cchd/collection](http://www.usccb.org/cchd/collection).

**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, Joan Campbell.



I wanted to share this reflection with all of you as we celebrate Thanksgiving this week. I have read it a couple of times, and found what Susie Tierney writes expresses my thoughts exactly for this holiday...

*This Thanksgiving week, I am having a hard time wrapping my heart and mind around a sense of gratitude. It's not that I'm ungrateful; quite the opposite, really. I could not be more grateful for all that I've been lucky enough to have access to in this lifetime: food, clothing, shelter, a loving family and enough extra for nights of fun and entertainment.*

*But what I'm especially struggling with is my personal sense of gratitude vs. the needs of the world. While I'm able to celebrate Thanksgiving surrounded by a warm home, plenty of food, and a loving family, it is not lost on me that the majority of the credit for my life of comfort has nearly everything to do with my birth into a white, middle-class family in the United States. Had I been born in an impoverished country, I might be part of a hunger statistic. Had I been born in a low-income family here in the U.S., my ability to escape poverty would most certainly be impeded by multiple structural barriers. And, my race has definitely afforded me many privileges I don't even have to think about.*

*Every year as I approach Thanksgiving, I find myself wondering why the circumstances surrounding my birth should afford me access to things others do not have access to; privileges others do not have. But no matter how I try to think about this question or discern it, I always come down on the side of this truth: they shouldn't.*

*So, this year I hope to approach the Thanksgiving table a little differently. Rather than a prayer of gratitude where I list off all the things I'm grateful for in my life – all the things I have access to that others don't – this Thanksgiving, my prayer will be a renewed commitment to doing everything I can to end hunger.*

*The poet and author, Mary Oliver, has said, "That God has a plan for us, I have no doubt. But what if God's plan is for us to do better?" This Thanksgiving, my personal prayer will be to "do better"; to do what is in my power to change systems and structures that prevent hungry people from getting access to food and other basic necessities.*

*I will also be offering a prayer for all of you. I hope your Thanksgiving holiday is peaceful and filled with lots of quality time with family/friends. And I pray that you will join me in a commitment to "do better."*

## A Time to Give Thanks

As we approach Thanksgiving it is a time to give thanks to God and one another in the ways our lives have been so graced. As we know expressing our gratitude should not be reserved for one day, but something we are called to do regularly in our lives. This year's celebration of Thanksgiving will be different in many ways because of COVID-19, and the impact it will have on our usual gatherings. We are grateful for all of our medical communities, healthcare personnel, and essential workers who have done an exceptional job under very challenging circumstances.

As your pastor I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to all of you who have been so supportive of our recent **Parish Capital Campaign**. Your pledge whether large or small has made it possible for us to nearly reach our goal which I believe will happen very soon. Even in this pandemic you made this possible, so THANK YOU for your prayers and gifts to this effort this past year.

The mission of our Parish wouldn't be possible without the generosity of all of you who have volunteered. Many have volunteered their time in Catherine's Cupboard on Tuesdays, and many others have sustained our outreach through your financial and food donations. Much gratitude to all of our catechists in our Faith Formation ministry who are sharing our Catholic faith to our young parishioners. In this COVID time they have come forth despite the challenges. I am grateful to those who volunteer to keep our landscape around our property very attractive. Also, I am grateful for the staff that assists me and all of us to fulfill the daily operation of our parish. So, THANK YOU, Dc. Steve & Ede Blabac, Joe Carpenter, Sue Ekstrom, Delores Farwell, Fred & Patty Hazlett, Maria Kirk, Tina Silvestri, and Ed Savo.

*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.*

Know my prayer of thanks goes out to you all,

*Jr. Tier*

## Catherine's Cupboard Volunteer Schedule

### Transportation

NO TRANSPORTATION

### Shelving (Mondays)

NO SHELIVING

### Distribution

December 1st — K. & T. Barnhart, N. Oliver

## THE GIVING TREE 2020

"Tis the season" but this year we are doing it a little different, we want YOU to decorate the tree with gift cards see below.

**Gift cards should be in values of \$20-\$25; Visa or Master cards work also.**

"Children's Home holiday will look a bit different this year. Keeping safety as our first priority, not only for our youth and families, but for our community, we will be sending home family bags. The bags will contain a gift card from a grocery store, a warm blanket and a meaningful family activity. **We are requesting gift cards from Walmart, Target and Aldi's for the family bags.** Our goal is to help families engage in ways they may not have previously; while keeping you and your family safe by providing alternative ways to donate. With your donation we are one step closer to creating healthier, stronger family units in our community."

We also give gifts to Elizabeth Church Nursing Home which we will do again this year. **Instead of taking a tag just pick up a gift and leave under the tree in a holiday bag not gift wrapped.** Suggested items all under \$10 value would be hair brushes and accessories hair bands, barrettes etc. Residents have not been allowed to get their hair styled since MARCH due to COVID. Tins of cookies, soft blankets, or candy also are great gifts for them.

Our tree will be up on November 28th through December 13th. If you are not attending mass feel free to drop off items at the parish center during regular hours (Mon.—Thurs. 8AM—4PM) So shop at your local grocery or drug store for these items and STAY SAFE

## Instructions for Celebration of Sacraments

### **In order to permit Mass each parishioner must:**

- † Seek information for registration for Mass, and 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

### **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..
- † Please maintain social distancing of 6 feet!



2020 CUTLER BOTANIC GARDEN PRE-PAID

## Holiday Wreath Sale

All sales benefit the work of Cutler Botanic Garden!

Freshly made by Master Gardeners

Available for pick-up:

**Saturdays, beginning November 28**

**9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

Regional Farmers Market

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Broome County

840 Upper Front Street

Binghamton



Lg. (28") Wreath \$30  
Sm. (22") Wreath \$25



Horizontal Swag \$25



Vertical Swags \$25

Make checks payable to "CCE-BC"

Mail or deliver form and payment by **November 16**

to: Carol Fetterman

CCE-BC

840 Upper Front Street, Binghamton, NY 13905

Attn. Wreath sale

Order online at: [ccebroomecounty.com](http://ccebroomecounty.com)

Questions? Call Carol 607-584-9966

Thank you for supporting Cutler Botanic Garden!

## 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**

**November 28th & 29th, 2020**

**4:00 P.M. Mass**

Designation ONLY

**8:00 A.M. Mass**

Designation ONLY

**11:00 A.M. Mass**

Designation ONLY

Please go online to  
**stfrancisbing.org**  
to view our latest Sunday mass.

We will continue to post new videos of our weekend liturgies by 4:00PM on Saturdays, for those who wish to stay home for health and safety concerns.

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!**

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

**Question of the Week**

**Question for Children:** Who are the people most in need of help who live around you, and how can you help them?

**Question for Youth:** What can you do (alone, with friends, or with your family) to help those who are without food, shelter, or have other needs? When have you seen Jesus in the poor?

**Question for Adults:** As you grapple with this very strong, direct and demanding Gospel passage, name the people for whom you have cared personally – or if there are none, those for whom you will offer care in the coming weeks.

# 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 **November 22nd, 2020**

**Deliver 250 copies to St. Francis of Assisi.**