

December 06, 2020

# St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 13901

# PEACE



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 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, December 5, Vigil of Sunday**  
 4:00p.m Deceased members of the Totman & Truchan Families by Family  
**Sunday, December 6, Second Sunday of Advent**

8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People  
 11:00 a.m. Mary Stone by Mike & Karen Dotson

**Monday, December 7**  
 12:00 p.m. Teal Dougherty by Carol & Ron Kilmer & Bertie & Fran Sullivan

**Tuesday, December 8, The Immaculate Conception**  
 9:00 a.m. Jim Kalivoda by St. Francis Special Sunshine Committee

**Wednesday, December 9**  
 12:00 p.m. Ethan Murphy by Paul & Sue Tierno

**Thursday, December 10**  
 8:00 a.m. Rob Loftus by Wife, Sheila

**Friday, December 11**  
**NO MASS**

**Saturday, December 12, Vigil of Sunday**  
 4:00p.m James Foran by Kathy & Glen Tait  
**Sunday, December 13 ,Third Sunday of Advent**

8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People  
 11:00a.m. Richard Kapinus by Wife, Kathleen

**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 (11-29-20)**

Regular Envelopes.....\$4,241.00  
 Loose Collection.....\$146.00  
 Electronic Collection.....\$1,452.00  
 Total Collection.....\$5,839.00

*Thank You for your generous contributions!*

**FAITH FORMATION**

**Faith Formation for grades K-Confirmation meets this weekend, 9:30--10:45 AM.**

A reminder to parents that there is **NO Faith Formation Christmas Program this year.**

First Reconciliation has been rescheduled for January 2021.

**Zoom Book Club**

The book club has been missing due to the need to social distance during the Pandemic. We are going to attempt a book club using Zoom. Many of you are already familiar with Zoom but you will need a device that connects you to the Internet. We are planning on two sessions, starting on the first Tuesday of January 2021 at 2PM & 7PM. We're aiming for 10 attendees (a household counts as an attendee). I think 10 is a reasonable number to start with. We will be reading and talking about Pope Francis' new encyclical called Fratelli Tutti which means All Brothers (and Sisters too I might add). Please contact the Delores in the Parish Office or call Deacon Steve at 607-648-2155 or [steveblabac@yahoo.com](mailto:steveblabac@yahoo.com) to register. The encyclical is available at many sources but we will wait to see if anyone is interested before putting an order in.

**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!

**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, Carol Koch and Michael Fontana.

**2nd Week of Advent**  
**Weekly Justice Challenges**

The Responsorial Song for Sunday sings of justice and peace kissing when the Messiah comes. The psalmist proclaims, “Justice shall walk before him...” So many scripture readings remind us that one of the best paths to peace comes through achieving justice— making sure everyone has what he or she needs to live a life of dignity and hope. The root of conflict can usually be found when people are denied their basic human rights. Your challenge this week is to discuss as a family or household what you think the connection is between justice and peace. Then choose one act of justice which you can do to bring more peace to our world. What is God calling you to do this week— in your immediate family, in your parish or school, in your community, or even in the world itself— to help someone secure the human rights they have been denied? Remember that we Catholics believe they deserve these rights, not by earning them or buying them or even achieving them, but because they are part of the human family, just like you and me, created in God’s own image and likeness.

**Prayer for the Second Week of Advent**

*O Promise of light, of justice, and of peace, we pray to you to guide us through the journey of Advent. Ground us in your love and grace us to take on the challenge of hope. Give our voices the strength to take up the prophetic call for a just and peaceful world. Open our eyes to new ways of seeing, open our ears to listen closely so we can make the way straight, so all of your beloved children can flourish through the healing of the community and Creation. In Christ’s name we pray, Amen.*

**Immaculata Award**

Ten years ago, Bishop Cunningham established the Immaculata Award to recognize members of the lay faithful around the Diocese of Syracuse for their outstanding service to Christ and his Church. In our parish over these years a number of parishioners have been recipients of this award.

This year we are happy to share with you that Scott and Donna Iglar are receiving this recognition. Scott and Donna have done much for the parish throughout the years, especially in regards to our Liturgical environment that captures special celebrations. Whether it’s Easter, All Souls Remembrance, Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas, or any other occasion, they give their time to enhance our church for the special moments. We enjoy the end result but it comes about from the many hours of planning, organizing, and putting it together. They also have had wonderful assistance from various parishioners who work with them.

We are very fortunate as a parish to have many people like Scott and Donna who are outstanding in the service they contribute for the good of the parish. So, Congratulations Scott and Donna Iglar as this year’s recipients of the Immaculata Award!

**Fratelli Tutti**

Fr. Bob Bonnot, executive director of the Association of U.S. Catholic Priests writes, “Neither our nation nor our Church can flourish as we move into the future *unless* we grow in respect for one another. Pope Francis has sounded that alarm in his most recent teaching, *Fratelli Tutti*. In it he calls for social friendship among persons and groups now frozen in disagreement and opposition. Dialogue outside of our own convinced circles is rare. Too often it hardens the opposition rather than opening insights that can bring us together. As long as we stand alone, convinced that only we have it ‘right’, captured by the weighted and often false or exaggerated information of our chosen media, we will not be able to pursue much less come together around the common good. If that continues, both Church and nation will suffer.”

**Are We Suffering from ‘Truth Decay’?**

An article in the *Christian Science Monitor* ponders the question: Are we becoming a post-truth society? Truth decay... is a set of four interrelated trends: increasing disagreement about facts and interpretations of facts and data, more and more blurring of lines between opinions and facts, an increased volume of opinions, and lowered trust in formerly respected sources of factual information.

**Immaculate Conception Liturgy**

Tuesday is the feast of the Immaculate Conception and a Holyday of Obligation. We will be celebrating Mass:  
**Tuesday, December 8th, 9:00AM**  
**In the church**

**The Light is On for You**

As we prepare for the celebration of Christmas, the Sacrament of Penance will be available at the Parish Center in the Chapel during the following times:

- ✦ Wednesday, December 9th: 5:00PM—6:00PM
- ✦ Wednesday, December 16th: 5:00PM—6:00PM
- ✦ Monday, December 21st: 4:00PM—7:00PM

These past months in trying to adjust to the COVID-19 virus have interrupted many aspects of our Sacramental life. These listed times will hopefully be helpful and encouraging for you to come celebrate and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

**PLEASE, LET US KNOW THE NAMES AND THE ADDRESSES OF ANY SHUT-INS AT HOME OR IN NURSING HOMES. WE WOULD LOVE TO REACH OUT IN ANY WAY WE CAN! CALL DELORES AT THE PARISH CENTER (607)722-4388 TO LET US KNOW! THANKS!**

## Catherine's Cupboard Volunteer Schedule

### Transportation

NO TRANSPORTATION

### Shelving (Mondays)

NO SHELIVING

### Distribution

December 15th— J. Wyatt, C. Botting, & D. Dobish

## 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!

# LET YOUR Soul SHINE

with Matthew Kelly

A FREE DAILY  
ADVENT EXPERIENCE

Making 2021 the Best Year of Your Life  
Begins at **BestAdventEver.com**

This Advent, please join your fellow parishioners for Dynamic Catholic's **BEST ADVENT EVER: LET YOUR SOUL SHINE**. Every day during Advent, you'll receive an email with a short video from Matthew Kelly and the Dynamic Catholic team. It's completely free and easy to sign up. All you have to do is go to

**BestAdventEver.com** and enter your name and email address. I encourage you to invite your family and friends once you sign up.

Again, that's **BestAdventEver.com**.

Want to make 2021 the best year of your life?

It begins with a great Advent.

So, let's all have an amazing Advent, together!

## 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**  
**December 12th & 13th, 2020**

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

Designation ONLY

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

Designation ONLY

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

Designation ONLY

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YouTube (St. Francis of Assisi Binghamton)

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

**Question of the Week**

**Question for Children:** How do you experience God taking care of you, even in times of trouble?

**Question for Youth:** John went out to announce the good news of the Messiah’s coming. How can you be good news to your friends and family this week?

**Question for Adults:** When you hear Isaiah comfort the people by promising that God is like a shepherd who gathers the lambs into his arms, what is your response

# 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 **December 6th, 2020**

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